

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LX.]

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome	197
Leading Articles:—	
The New Treaty Ports	198
Colonies in Leading Strings	198
The "Yellow Peril" Again	199
The Battle of Diplomacy	199
Unreliable Authorities	200
Continuing Education	201
Hongkong Jottings	201
Hongkong Legislative Council	202
Supreme Court	203
Marine Court	205
Hongkong Cotton Spinning, Weaving, & Co., Ltd.	205
The Chinese Engineering and Mining Co., Ltd.	206
Canton	206
Pakhoi	206
Correspondence	206
Hongkong Blue Book	207
The Coming Man in China	207
A Shanghai Admiralty Court	207
"Yellow Peril" in New Guise	207
Currency Reform in China	208
Chinese Methods	208
Settlement of the Shiben Anti-Catholic Troubles	208
"Gneisenau" Captain Fined	208
Native Fighting Near Shanghai	208
Neutral Goods on Japanese Ships	208
Important Japan-Corea Agreement	209
Impudent House Boys	209
Snakes in Hongkong	209
The Winning Number	209
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club	209
Cricket League Annual Meeting	209
Trade Items	210
Hongkong	211
Miscellaneous	213
Commercial	213
Shipping	215

BIRTHS.

On the 28th August, at Kuling, the wife of WILLIAM KELLY, of a son.

On the 10th September, at Shanghai, to Mr. and Mrs. THOMAS HENRY HARRIS, a daughter.

MARRIAGE.

On the 6th September, at St. John's Pro-Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Venerable Archdeacon Thomson, the Rev. ROBERT C. WILSON, of Bethel, Vermont, to SARAH TAYLOR RHETT, second daughter of the late JOHN RHETT, of South Carolina.

DEATH.

On the 1st August, at Ware (England), LYDIA, widow of Right Rev. G. SMITH, D.D., first Bishop of Victoria, Hongkong, aged 85 years.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

ARRIVAL OF MAILS!

The French Mail of the 5th ult. arrived, per the s.s. *Australien*, on the 13th inst.; the German Mail arrived, per the s.s. *Sachsen*, on the 15th inst.; and the French Mail of 19th ult. is expected to arrive, per the s.s. *Salasie*, some time to-day, the 19th inst.

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Russia has announced a new issue of notes.

A treaty between Great Britain and Tibet was signed on September 7th.

The Japanese have been distributing relief to the Chinese round Haichang.

The China Medal with clasp for the relief of Peking has been presented to Mr. A. W. Harvey Bellingham.

The German company of Volunteers at Shanghai has just won the inter-company challenge shield for the third time, beating the English artillery by three points.

The sailors of the U.S.S. *Wisconsin* gave a dramatic entertainment on the fo'c'sle deck at Shanghai on the 9th instant. They played a piece called "In Virginia."

The Japanese Authorities have been notified by the Swiss Government that the Empire of China joined the International Red Cross Convention on the 29th of June last.

The St. Andrew's Society Bursary Committee at Shanghai has decided to offer two prizes of \$100 each, to be competed for by Scottish youths there, at a special examination in Scottish history, geography, and literature.

A telegram from Newchwang reports a collision that occurred on the 6th instant between the steamer *Yatsu Maru* and the gunboat *Atago* at Newchwang. The *Yatsu Maru* sank at 2.30 p.m. in front of the Eastern Customs. The total loss is estimated at a hundred thousand yen.

It is rumoured that several more Roman Catholic priests (Belgians) have been killed in the Ichang District. Last week the *N.-C. Daily News* reported that four French torpedo-boat destroyers and one French gunboat were all in readiness to leave Hankow for Ichang, presumably on account of these rumours.

Sharji Chwastji Sanjana, the Parsee barrister desired at Bombay to answer a charge of forgery, left for India, in custody of Inspector Power (Bombay Police), by the P. & O. s.s. *Chusan*. He was, it will be remembered, brought from Manila; and his rendition was obtained from the Hongkong Government.

The Shanghai police locked up an American sailor who had a loaded revolver, and seemed drunk. Consul Goodnow, having tried the case, confiscated the revolver; and as the Court rose, he said to the English constable Goddard: "As you have succeeded so well in preventing any possible disturbance on the part of the accused, who has been in trouble before, I have much pleasure in presenting you with the revolver with my compliments."

The Buddhists in Hunan, being somewhat alarmed at the possibility of having their temples changed into schools by the Government, have, says the *N.C. Daily News*, hit upon a happy device to avoid such a calamity. Several of the Buddhist temples in this province have passed into the hands of Japanese priests now in the province, with the object of avoiding the possibility of their being used by the Government for schools, seeing they belong to foreigners.

The Liaoyang victory cost Japan nearly 18,000 men killed and wounded. Russian losses numbered 30,000. Both these estimates were official. General Sassulitch was wounded and captured with 3,000 of his men. There is no authentic news of Port Arthur at the time of going to press, but the Japanese are believed to be hammering away at the inner defences of the fortress. Preparations are nearly all made in the Japanese cities for a celebration of the fall of Port Arthur.

The Chinese soldiers massed outside the old city of Yungpingfu have devised a somewhat unusual scheme for directing people to the camp. Along the road that runs from the East gate of the city, on the walls of various temples and compounds, they have painted the figure of a foreign soldier. It is curious to meet a crude painting of a German or Japanese soldier standing to the salute, in a district so generally free from the actual presence of foreigners, other than missionaries.

The staff of the Shanghai Branch of the Inspectorate-General of Customs is being rapidly scattered. Sir Robert Bredon, K.C.M.G., is in Japan, and his future movements not known. His private secretary, Mr. Commijs, is ordered to Tientsin; Mr. Ready goes to Shasi to act as Commissioner; M. de Bondy is transferred to Ningpo, Mr. Hemerling to Newchwang, and Mr. Tochtermann to Peking. The *N.-C. Daily News* understands that the other three members of the staff, Messrs. Lowder, Bowring, and Sandercock, have not yet received their instructions.

A sensational escape from the Shanghai American Consular Gaol is recorded. G. T. Odum, who is undergoing a sentence of 2½ years' imprisonment for fraud at Canton, escaped from the cell in which he was confined at 2 a.m. He effected his escape by sawing through the bars. They have arrested an Englishman called Bailey on the charge of helping Odum to escape. Odum has since been caught. He was found hidden in a chest of drawers at his friend's house. He gets ninety days' extra of rigorous imprisonment. His English friend was being tried at the British Court.

The Governor of Shansi has memorialised on the question of the establishment of a police school at Tai-yuan-fu, capital of the province. He states that for the purpose of training modern police experts for service in the various districts where police forces will be organised as commanded in Imperial edicts, he has now opened this school with 60 youths who are to be taught by three Japanese police officers who will be engaged at monthly pay of between \$200 and \$120 per man, with free quarters. The course of the students is now temporarily fixed at one year, owing to the urgent demand for them in the province. The expenditure will be £12,000 per annum.

The Peking correspondent of the Shanghai *Mercury* sent the following sensational story dated August 27th. "A most pitiful incident occurred last evening at the quarters of the British Legation Guard. Someone went to an officer of the Guard and said that one of the soldiers was insane. The officer went to the barracks to investigate and found the soldier in the act of cutting up his clothes. He then got out into the street and ran as far as the French Hospital on Legation Street, where he was followed by some English soldiers. In front of the hospital were a number of Chinese coolies with their jinrickshas. The insane man carried his bayonet at his side, and with this he started to stab the coolies. After making every possible effort to stop him, the pursuing soldiers shot him. He was taken to the American Legation Guard hospital, where it was thought that he was only slightly wounded. An examination was made by an English and an American surgeon, and it was found that he had been shot through the abdomen, and he died in a few minutes."

THE NEW TREATY PORTS.

(Daily Press, 10th September.)

The growth of opinion among the Chinese during the last twelve months or so in favour of opening cities to foreign trade has been very noticeable. Commercial men have been the prime movers in the matter, but it is interesting to note the political aspect of the matter which has evidently appealed to Chinese statesmen. Section 12 of the MACKAY Treaty provides that five places shall be opened to foreign trade "on the same footing as the places opened to foreign trade by the Treaties of Nanking and Tientsin"; but in the same section it is stipulated that "foreigners residing in these Open Ports are to observe the Municipal and Police regulations on the same footing as Chinese residents, and they are not to be entitled to establish municipalities and police of their own within the limits of these Treaty Ports except with the consent of the Chinese authorities." The draft regulations recently framed by Viceroy WEI for the opening of Changsha to foreign trade clearly reveal what China means by thus differentiating between the old Treaty Ports and the new. In the old settlements where foreign Municipal Councils and police administrations exist they have been organised by virtue of local regulations which were framed jointly by the foreign and Chinese authorities. There is nothing in either the Nanking or Tientsin Treaties expressly sanctioning or forbidding the establishment of a foreign Municipal Council or a foreign police force in a Treaty port, and it was, to say the least, extremely unwise on the part of the British authorities to have allowed such an inhibition to appear in the MACKAY Treaty. Where there is any considerable congregation of foreigners in a Chinese city these extra-territorial privileges are exceedingly desirable, and indeed absolutely essential to their welfare. What, we wonder, would the Shameen be like if left for twelve months to the administrative care of the native officials of Canton? Those who know how municipal affairs are regulated in the native city will have no difficulty in recognising that the Shameen would speedily become intolerable as a place of residence for the foreigner. It would appear from Viceroy WEI's draft regulations that a site is to be selected at Changsha for foreign trade and residence, and this is the part of the city apparently which the Chinese Government is willing to administer "in accordance with the most modern and advanced methods." Viceroy WEI evidently lacks the sense of humour. Honan, of which Changsha is the capital, has long been notorious for its hatred of the foreigner and all his ways. It is truly Gilbertian to be solemnly told in a Viceregal document that here in the very heart of conservatism and hatred of the foreigner, a Chinese Municipal Council will administer the affairs of a settlement for foreign habitation on the most modern and advanced methods. The question of ways and means could not very well be overlooked in such a set of regulations, and so we have it in Regulation No. 5 that the Chinese Municipal Council will undertake the maintenance of roads and public works, and to meet the expense thereof a duty of two per cent. will be levied on all import and export duties paid by both foreigners and Chinese. To fix its income before having an idea of its expenditure may, we suppose, be considered among the "most modern and advanced methods" of the Chinese Municipal Council of Changsha, but it is a method not likely to commend itself to the Foreign

Consul or Ministers by whom these regulations will have to be considered.

They need revision badly in order to make them intelligible. What for instance is meant by the regulation that all land purchases and other business will be conducted by the President of the Municipal Council without foreign interference? In No. 10 appears the statement that the lease is for sixty years from date of opening. The MACKAY Treaty does not say that any territory shall be leased. In another regulation appears the absurd stipulation that "no one will be allowed to occupy more than 250 feet of land on the river front" as "otherwise the demands of all cannot be met." The regulations seem to have been framed under the delusion that as soon as the port is opened there will be a great influx of foreigners ready to buy up the entire city unless some restrictions are placed on their acquisitiveness. When the Hankow-Canton railway is completed Changsha will doubtless become an important market for foreign goods, but while the jealousy and hostility towards the foreigner endures which is so ill-concealed in these regulations, the city is not likely to include among its inhabitants a colony of foreign traders. Viceroy WEI has solicited an expression of the views of the Foreign Consuls concerning these regulations, which it has been suggested are to stand as a guide for all ports to be opened hereafter. If so, and in any event, it is the duty of the British authorities to point out to the Government of Peking that these regulations are tantamount to withdrawing with one hand what they have given with the other.

COLONIES IN LEADING STRINGS.

(Daily Press, 12th September.)

With the spread of the British Empire, a question of much importance is forcing itself into consideration, and must before long come within "measurable distance of practical politics"—the question, namely, of the extent to which the Home Authorities are justified in interfering with the action of Colonial Governments. This question is by no means a new one. In different shapes, it has arisen ever since Great Britain first established Colonies in any form. Its being originally completely misunderstood was the cause of the breaking off of the American Colonies; and its continuing to be at least imperfectly misunderstood may yet bring trouble to the Empire; so that the time is not far distant when it will require the utmost wisdom and tact on the part of our statesmen to prevent conflicts of interest or opinion between the Home and Colonial Governments taking an acute and dangerous form.

The day is fortunately long past when it was imagined that Possessions in all parts of the world could be adequately governed from Home. The lesson from the American secession was not forgotten. If anything it has been remembered a little too well; and there has been a tendency to look upon granting representative institutions to any given Colony as a panacea for every ill. The step is, of course, a most desirable one; but, though its adoption has been attended with the happiest results, it has not by any means had the effect of relieving the Home Government of all responsibility, and has left much still to be done by the Central authorities, whose duties in connection with the Colonies are yearly increasing both in extent and in importance.

The Colonial Office, though it has not been free from blunders—some of a very serious character—has upon the whole adopted a

liberal and enlightened policy; and, by degrees, the principle has become established that the Home Government will not interfere with measures adopted in Colonies having representative institutions, so long as such measures do not conflict with Imperial interests. It has been found better in all other cases to leave people alone and permit them to manage their own affairs. This at least is the principle recognised in official quarters; and, if at times it has been departed from, it is fair to admit that it has, as a rule, been conscientiously acted up to.

Of late, however, a counter tendency has become observable in an unexpected quarter. While the Colonial Office itself has become less inclined to interfere in purely local Colonial affairs, there has been an increasing desire on the part of Parliament to force that Office, in given cases, to recur to a policy of interference which the latter has long very wisely discarded. Questions by individual members put to the Government not only upon Colonial but even upon the more delicate subject of Foreign Affairs, have always been recognised as a salutary "fillip" to sluggish officials, and have often produced useful results. The member who, like DICKENS' clerk, at the Circumlocution Office "wants to know, you know," is a useful factor, and no reasonable person can object to him, provided his questions are put *bona fide* and on their true merits. But it is a very different thing when for party purposes an attempt is made, as has of late been too frequently the case, to embarrass the Government by forcing it to interfere in some Colonial question which it would otherwise leave to be dealt with by those upon the spot who fully understand its bearings, and who are directly interested in its settlement.

The recent fussy interference with the question of Chinese emigration to the Transvaal forms a good illustration of this new departure. That Colony is perfectly well able to take care of itself; and it was only because of the manifest necessity of a centralised Government for a certain time after the war that representative government was not granted to it; while Lord MILNER declared that he would, as far as could be, consult the wishes of the people as nearly as possible as if they had representative institutions, and did so with regard to this very subject. Yet a party question must be made of the matter in England, and a number of British Members of Parliament, who cared as much for the coolies as for the King of the Cannibal Islands, must get up and, in speeches in which (to borrow an inimitable expression) they displayed "an extensive ignorance of the whole subject," declaim about "slavery," "British honour," and Heaven knows what else, in reference to the gigantic question whether HOP-CHING and FOH-A-LING should earn 50 or 60 cash a day as carrying coolies or sampan-men in China or (thanks to low exchange) half a dollar a day as miners in South Africa, with free passage there and back, and "as much as they want to eat."

Fortunately in this case the members were not to be taken by the proverbial "catchwords," however plausible, and the attempted interference was frustrated. But the whole proceedings afford food for reflection as to the dangers attending political tactics of the kind above indicated. Had the Government been forced to yield to the pressure brought upon it not only would considerable commercial harm have been done, but grave discontent would undoubtedly have been engendered. It is to be hoped that means will be found to put an end to tactics of this nature, and that the rule of not interfering with Colonial measures,

except where they involve Imperial interests or go counter to recognised principles, will be rigidly adhered to. Hitherto it has been found quite possible to do this without any undue weakening of the Home authority, which, within its proper sphere, is an important element in Colonial Government. Rightly applied, it is the best guarantee for efficient administration and even-handed justice. But such authority cannot be maintained except it be exercised reasonably and within its proper limits, and it will be a bad day for Imperial as well as Colonial interests in all parts of the world if the needless interference of former times on the part of the Colonial Office, now happily abandoned in favour of a more liberal policy, be revived in the form of interference by Parliaments, often only for party purposes, and too frequently without any real knowledge of the questions upon which irresponsible members undertake to dictate.

THE "YELLOW PERIL" AGAIN.

(Daily Press, 13th September.)

In the course of a valuable and thoughtful paper on the "conflict of new world forces in the Far East," which was read by Mr. VALENTINE CHIROL at the Royal Military College, Woolwich, and is published in the *National Review* for June, a reference is made to the much-debated question of the "Yellow Peril" which is worthy of careful consideration by those who desire to see the establishment of the relations between East and West upon an equitable and stable basis. Mr. CHIROL says: "In some quarters the successes of the Japanese have already served as a pretext for reviving the cry of 'Yellow Peril,' as if the surest way to create such a peril were not to proclaim that, whatever a non-European race may do to conform to our standing of international ethics, and however legitimate the cause in which it takes up arms against a European Power, the hand of every white man must nevertheless on racial grounds be against it." Mr. CHIROL goes on to say that he cannot believe that such a cry will find a serious echo in Great Britain; and points to the inconsistency there would be if those who for three or four generations have been preaching that it is time for Eastern nations to adapt themselves to European civilization should take part in ostracising Japan, the only nation that has listened to the advice.

The inconsistency is manifest, and there are certainly few who would be disposed to gainsay the soundness of the view thus put forward. But consistency is not the most striking characteristic of politics, and the warning which is given is by no means superfluous or ill-timed. A large number of people have already become alarmed at the bare idea of any people who are, as they are pleased to put it, heathen, being able and ready to hold their own against a nation that is Christian; and they become still more apprehensive when they consider that it is within the bounds of possibility that there should be a combination of Eastern nations against the West at large.

Imagination being once started in this direction, a fine field is of course open to it, and this fact has not been lost sight of by those who desire for various ultimate ends to impress upon Europe the danger of the "Yellow Peril," of which we have of late heard so much. That such a peril might arise under certain circumstances it would be too much to deny; but the fact that Japan is able to take up and to maintain a strong political position, so far from tending to increase such a peril, must have a precisely opposite effect.

We have no just reason to doubt the *bona fides* of the Japanese in their declarations in favour of a liberal policy both in politics and in commercial relations. The idea that the Japanese were a people lacking in earnestness; only playing with European civilization, and ready to throw it off as quickly or more quickly than they have adopted it, has been dissipated by recent events. Those events have shown the Japanese to be possessed in an eminent degree of two great qualities which are essential to success in political as well as ordinary life—thoroughness and method—and it is to these qualities that they owe the successes which they have obtained both politically and in war. They have the essentials of the reliable and stable nation, and the existence of such a nation in the Far East, able to influence the policy of adjacent countries, is the best guarantee which Western nations can have for peaceful relations and sound commercial progress in these parts.

The greatest difficulties which diplomacy has had to contend against in China, from the time of the Treaty of Tientsin to the present day, have arisen not from her strength but from her weakness. The consciousness of her inability to hold her own against any foreign nation should occasion arise made her feverishly anxious to avoid every concession which might by any possibility give an opening for encroachment. Whatever was asked, no matter how reasonable, China stood as "the Eternal No," content to rely upon pitting foreign nations one against another, certain that their mutual jealousies would be the best safeguard of her integrity. This policy has in the main succeeded; but the curious thing is that China, astute as she is, failed to see that her action was useless in the direction where danger mainly threatened. Russia, while making a show of conforming with other foreign nations in their general policy, was steadily pushing her way through Mongolia and Manchuria, with the results at present existing. With a nation so weak as China she fully relied upon being able to obtain all she wanted by the simple process of pushing on to her borders. Had China ever been in a position to make such opposition as Japan has offered it is more than probable that Russia would have stopped short in her aggression, and the difficulties which arose when her advance threatened Japan as well as China would never have arisen. Further, we may be sure that the war with that former country would never have occurred had Russia not fondly imagined that the policy of "bluff" which had been so successful with China would be equally so with the much smaller Empire of Japan.

The concessions which other foreign nations—with Great Britain at the head of them in this respect—really require both from China and Japan are not territorial domination, but equal commercial facilities; and China will be more ready to concede the latter if once she feels certain that by doing so she is not jeopardising her territorial integrity; and her views upon this are certain to be largely influenced both directly and indirectly by Japan. Lessons which she is chary of learning from foreigners she will be willing slowly to accept from a neighbouring nation, who, though differing from her widely in many respects, is not so widely separated from her as are foreign nations. A strong Japan, by being able, either alone or in conjunction with China, to place a barrier against Russian aggression, is thus likely to work in favour of stability in the Far East, and not only to

lessen the chances of a disturbance of the peace, but, what is no less important, to do away with the inordinate fear by China of encroachment by foreign nations which has quite as much as her natural conservatism stood in the way of a progressive and liberal policy on her part. There can be no serious "Yellow Peril" if this result be attained, and the fact that such progress is made without danger to its independence in a neighbouring country will surely, if slowly, influence the Chinese in the same direction. As long as one foreign nation is actively aggressive in regard to China, other foreign nations and China herself are placed at a great disadvantage. The former, with the exception of course of Russia, are mainly interested in obtaining equal trading facilities, and these will be extended in proportion as China feels herself secure. If this result be brought about by recent events, the West has no just reason for apprehension. The idea of some great Asiatic combination against Europe is not an unnatural one at the present time; but it is one unlikely to be realised. Those who attach great importance to it overlook the fact that there are rivalries among Asiatic as well as among European nations. If we divide the whole world only into East and West, the idea seems no doubt plausible. But there are divisions among Eastern as well as Western nations, and it will require some great political force to render such a combination more than a matter of sympathy or sentiment. Such a force might arise from a serious combination among Western nations to subjugate the East—a contingency which is not likely to occur; but short of this, there is little to fear. As between China and Japan, there is small likelihood of any coalition which would be a menace to foreign nations. Japan may co-operate with her to resist a common danger, but will certainly not be likely to work with her in any way that might make her a menace to foreign nations, but would end in making her a greater menace to Japan herself.

THE BATTLE OF DIPLOMACY.

(Daily Press, 15th September.)

Whatever be the military results of the Russo-Japanese war, it is certain that they will end in a diplomatic campaign, only equalled in intensity by the international struggle which followed the final defeat of NAPOLEON at the battle of Waterloo. The whole of Europe in fact is laying itself out for the battle of the diplomatists; and indications are not wanting that it is one which will need the entire devotion of our ablest sons. A feather shows how the wind blows, and one or two of these feathers are already in the air. One of these is not inaptly heard of from Peking. The position of France in face of the ever-recurring missionary question is a case in point. While modern France has at home been endeavouring to free itself from its traditional dependence on the ultramontane section of the Church at Rome, abroad she has ever been, mainly for political purposes, the staunchest supporter of the ultramontane element. The policy here is of no recent growth, but has been traditional ever since CLOVIS availed himself of the good offices of the Church to complete his victory over the Gothic kingdoms, and her greatest kings and statesmen have ever since followed in his steps; and up till the recent differences with the Vatican it has continued the ruling policy of the Republic. Some quarter of a century ago China made efforts to deal with the Vatican direct, but as at the time such a solution did not comport with the views

and immediate interests of either Rome or France, the attempt was hopeless from its very beginning. The idea of Pekinese statesmen, that they could obtain better terms by dealing with the Vatican direct than through the medium of France, has all the while lain dormant, and has never been really extinguished, and there is reason to believe that Germany was more or less concerned in keeping it alive. It need therefore excite little surprise that in view of the unfriendly feeling just now existing between France and the Pope the idea has been once more revived. It is hardly likely that it will be more successful than before but the very fact that it has been broached may lead the statesmen who now preside over French interests to reconsider the difficulties of the case, and propose themselves some modifications in their relations with the Vatican.

Then again a new modification, said to have been suggested from India, has been proposed in the relations of the Indian Government with the further East. The new scheme suggests that Burma should be parted from India, and formed into another great dependency to include the present Straits Settlements and the dependent Native States. Why it should be brought forward at the present moment is not very clear, nor why it should have ostensibly come from India. It is of course quite feasible that Lord CURZON should desire some alleviation of the awful weight of responsibility at present resting on the shoulders of the Indian Viceroyalty; but then, on the other hand, Burma has at times afforded financial relief to India when the latter has been taxed beyond her strength by some unexpected crisis, as in the late famines. India and Burma have had a tendency to oscillate; evil times in one have been concurrent with surpluses in the other, and the balance has thus been kept remarkably steady, without overburdening either. The more probable reason of the suggested radical change is the increasing importance from an Imperial standpoint of the Pacific Ocean; and the scheme probably points to some more definite amalgamation of Imperial interests than is practical under the present system. Then again, Germany has been recently displaying more anxiety regarding her position, and is certainly making strenuous efforts to extend her influence in Shantung, and to carry it across the peninsula to the coast of the Gulf of Pechili. This shows itself in ways apparently petty, as in the refusal of the German Consul at Chefoo, doubtless acting under superior instructions, to join in a harmless scheme for the creation of an international settlement on the model of Shanghai, as also in details connected with the working of the railway to Tsinan, in marked contrast with the system prevailing on the Imperial Railways in Chihli.

Russian policy as exhibited through her representative at Peking does not materially differ from what it has ever been. It consists, as before the war, of seeking to pose as the disinterested friend of China, and seeking to widen such rifts in the councils of the other Powers as must of necessity display themselves. The old game of the Friend of China has been pretty well exposed by recent affairs. On pretence of guarding the interests of the "Friend" Russia succeeded in exploiting the pockets of her too trusting dupe, but her ability to help has vanished with the exposures of the campaign. China would be a fool not to see the moral; and probably even the Empress Dowager, who looked to Russia to support her with material aid in carrying out

her revolutionary policy, is pretty well convinced of her inability to render her any tangible help.

Looking across the Pacific, the States are under their momentary quartenial paralysis, and though the indications are all in favour of her recent more active policy being resumed, probably with increased vim, at the moment nothing is apparent on the surface. One thing is, however missing. Our own Government has as yet scarcely risen to the comprehension of how intimately the interests of our great colonies of Canada and Australia are concerned in the solution of the problem. Fortunately our greatest statesmen of the day are intimately connected with our Imperial as distinct from our merely European interests; it is surely a time when we should seek to draw closer the links which bind us to our great dependencies.

UNRELIABLE AUTHORITIES.

(Daily Press, 16th September.)

If all Russians were like Mr. GABRIEL DE WESSELITSKY, or, to be less exacting, if all Russians occupying positions of authority and responsibility were of his kidney, we should find the regard in which his country is held materially altered, and the hopes he entertains more likely of fulfilment. We have been reading a copy of an address which that popular London journalist delivered about a couple of months ago to the Central Asian Society of London; and are impressed by its exceedingly reasonable tone. In these degenerate days, when wars and rumours of wars, as well as the increasing hustle and bustle of existence, have made men's nerves too tense, and their impulses somewhat hysterical, it is something to find a man with a message who has himself strictly under control. When we find REUTER informing us almost in a breath that the *Daily Telegraph* has one day beslobbered the Japanese with praise, and the next accused them of a great political blunder; when even the *Times* loses its temper (as it evidently has done) over an incident like the expulsion of one of its reporters from St. Petersburg; when all the war correspondents, both reputable and reputationless, who came to worship all things Japanese, and remained to abuse them, because the Censor "queered their pitch"; when we find such easily provoked prejudices, it is no small thing to come across a Russian literary man dealing with a vexed topic like the "Saffron Scare" with all the dignity and reserve of a Supreme Court Judge. Those who have heard of Mr. WESSELITSKY only as the London representative of that "Daily Mail" of St. Petersburg—the *Novoe Vremya*—will be all the more surprised to find moderation in a member of that notorious journal's staff. Mr. WESSELITSKY, however, neatly dissociated himself from his rabid colleagues by remarking that his views would in no way engage his journal, in which "no strict unity of opinion is insisted upon, and permanent contributors have a wide latitude." In this address, he followed the chairman, the Rt. Hon. Sir ALFRED LYALL, G.C.L.E., in pleading for an Anglo-Russian *entente cordiale*. When he came to speak of the awakening of the Asiatics, he said: "It is impossible to speak of it without mentioning Japan. I am in no danger of forgetting that I am addressing her allies. Even if it were not so, Japan would still have a claim on my courteous consideration. National policy, as well as

national pride, forbid me to disparage an adversary. But it is no disparagement of the Japanese to disagree with their over-zealous friends who pretend that they are not Asiatics at all, but a race apart. Race, language, culture and traditions make them Asiatics; and it would rob Japan of her strongest claim to the world's respect if she were dissociated from Asia." And later he added the illuminating remark that "Our contempt for Asiatics is based only on our acquaintance with the Mongol and Turanian tribes which established themselves on the ruins of ancient and highly civilized empires and have stereotyped the decadence which they produced." It is true that there have been many idle attempts to prove that the Japanese are not Japanese at all. The western world, surprised to find that its notions of the Asiatic were rudely disturbed by closer acquaintance, and reluctant to correct its impressions, has thus sought to put a monkey's head on a fish's tail and call it a mermaid. Not long ago, a contributor to this paper dealt with a curious suggestion that the Japanese had a Jewish origin. European and American observers, unable to believe that a good thing may come out of Nazareth, have noted the astonishing progress of modern Japan, and have asked: Can these things be done by mere Asiatics? Then they invented a fable of the Japanese being a remnant of the population of a sunken continent. Unconscious of the implied insult, some of the Japanese themselves have felt obliged to follow suit. Mr. KIYOSHI KAWAKAMI, M.A., full of American learning, has quoted DE QUATREFAGES on "The Pigmies," and many others, to show that the first inhabitants of Japan disappeared before "a superior race of new-comers," and that these in turn gave place to a third race "superior both intellectually and physically," who took part in that same great Aryan *trek* which was responsible for the European parent stocks. As Mr. KAWAKAMI puts it: "When we first catch sight of ancient England, we see an Aryan settlement fishing in wattle canoes, and working the tin mines of Cornwall. The hypothesis of an Aryan migration into Japan is not more wonderful. . . Both eastward and westward the Aryans moved along open water routes." If we accept his hypothesis, we have a stronger reason than ever for the Anglo-Japanese alliance, blood having in both fact and proverb a greater consistency than water! Even then, the English are Europeans, and the Japanese Asiatics, and their points of dissimilarity remain greater than the likenesses founded on their respective national genius and joint humanity.

We have left it too late now to quote as extensively from Mr. WESSELITSKY's address as it deserves. He throughout pays the most ungrudging praise to the Japanese, showing excellent discrimination of their better qualities and successes. When he comes to the "meat" of his address, however, we find that he is, after all, a victim to what we have, avoiding a now wearisome phrase, referred to in an alliterative alternative. There is, he says, no "Yellow" peril, but he seeks to prove, on information derived from "English sources," that Japan is insidiously dominating China, the Philippines ("but for the Spanish-American war, the Philippines might now have Asiatic masters"), the Hawaiian group, Siam, British India (!), Persia, &c. &c. Now, Mr. WESSELITSKY was careful to emphasize that all his information was from English sources; and we would fain believe—we wish to say this inoffensively—that English sources are more reliable than, well, some others. Unfor-

unately, Mr. WESSELITSKY cites his authorities, and we are vastly amused to see the importance he has attached (by copious quotations and frequent references) to "Mr. STEPHEN ENGLAND, one of the *Daily Mail's* special correspondents in Tokyo, himself an enthusiastic friend of Japan, and writing in a decidedly pro-Japan organ." We are amused, because we have the highest possible authority for saying, with BETSY PRIG once more, that "there ain't no sich person"; that that particular contributor to the *Daily Mail*, so far from being "correspondent in Tokyo," never spent twenty-four consecutive hours in Tokyo; and that when he says (*vide Daily Mail*) "I could give a long list of notable men representing all the East who have been conferring with the leaders of Japan"—or, for that matter, when he says anything else whatsoever—his astounding informations should be taken with a very, very big pinch of salt indeed. We would not mention his real name for worlds, for he was a vastly entertaining and likeable young man; but it is sufficient commentary on the *Daily Mail's* authoritative pronouncements on questions of the *welt-politik* to say that this particular special correspondent was an enterprising American youth, who had drifted into Japan, applied to the *Daily Mail* when war broke out, and was hurriedly engaged and "starred" with *Mail* headlines under the pseudonym that Mr. WESSELITSKY has cited as the name of an important authority. The youthful author of the "Yellow Whirlwind" was too tempestuous even for the *Mail*. Further Munchausens from Corea, whither he was sent after a few weeks' residence in Yokohama, caused his speedy withdrawal and retirement to the United States, where we believe, and trust, he is doing equally vivid work of the same orange and green combination of colour. From what we know of Mr. WESSELITSKY, who is an able and respected member of the English journalists' associations at Home, we rather think he will, on hearing the true facts, hasten to withdraw his theory, and renounce his present belief, that Japan is committed to a policy of "Asia for the Asiatics." Or, on second thoughts, he would do better to modify it, and proclaim the watchword of the real movement as "Asia for the Japanese."

CONTINUING EDUCATION.

(*Daily Press*, 17th September.)

To Germany belongs the credit of the first national recognition of the necessity of more utilitarian education. The development of technical and manual teaching in Germany has been at once the delight and despair of educationalists and politicians and business men at Home. England has not been blind to the excellent results obtained by its neighbour, and more than several commissions from one body or another have been, and seen, and, come back convinced of the need for similar effort in our own land. And not without results. Slowly, and with some false steps, constantly faced with the necessity of retracing false steps taken by previous experimenters and bunglers, England is nevertheless coming into line with the more advanced ideas of what is requisite and necessary for the success of the rising generation, and ultimately, of the nation. Here in Hongkong, we have an educational movement, which likewise is trending toward better things. Perhaps in the fulness of time we shall have a complete scholastic system which will obviate the necessity of sending our sons and daughters home to complete their education. The

prospectus for session 1904-5 of the technical instruction classes held at the Institution of Engineers in Des Vœux Road may be regarded, if in no better light, as an acceptable promise of greater advantages still to come. These classes, from which we confidently expect the most useful results, were organised in January last by Mr. W. H. WILLIAMS of the Government Education Department, and offered for the first time to Hongkong youth desirable opportunities for instruction in Practical Mechanics. The first session closed on June 30th, and we are glad to learn that this initial attempt at secondary and technical education in our colony was distinguished by an appreciable measure of success. Thanks to the support of the Institute's committee, the second session sees a satisfactory extension of the scope of these classes, which are now embracing Advanced Practical Mathematics and Applied Mechanics,—Machine Drawing, Theoretical Electricity, Geometry, and Machine Construction. There will probably be the initial difficulty of inducing sufficient numbers of young men to realise the value of sacrificing part of their leisure to self improvement, the value of which is fully recognised by older men for whom such opportunities have come too late. It was so at Home at first, but the successes of the pioneer students aroused others to emulation; and now the demand for continued instruction, by those already learning trades and professions, is greater than the supply of laboratories, workshops, text-books, teachers, and the funds that procure these desiderata. It is too late in the day to dilate on the advantage of a theoretical, as well as practical, knowledge of one's business. An axiom, we used to be told, is a theorem the truth of which is so apparent as to be instantly admitted. The advantage of knowing one's particular business from A to Z, from cellar to attic, is now axiomatic. In America, where they fancy they know something about trade, millionaires' sons are going through the mill, from labouring to managing; and are no longer regarded as freaks for doing it, except when the *Sunday Supplement* editor happens to be short of copy. Of course what is good for Germany, England, and America is good for Hongkong, and Mr. WILLIAMS and his coadjutors are endeavouring to help our coming artisans and professional men to start where their fathers left off. The report of work already done has reached the Board of Education at Home, through the local director, with the result that the Board has now consented to conduct examinations in all the subjects, on the same conditions as in England. Their certificates will be excellent credentials for successful Hongkong students, because these classes are not to be conducted on the lines of coaching or cramming for particular examinations. It rests mainly with the students in the present session to induce the Government of Hongkong, already, as His EXCELLENCY pointed out on Thursday, entered upon a large number of important operations, to come forward and take its proper position as sponsor to such a momentous birth. If at the end of the session the standard of work done is sufficiently high, the Government, full as its obligations already are, can scarcely refuse to consider results with a view to promoting the scheme by providing laboratories for experimental science, and (it is to be hoped) engaging one or two specialists. 'Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished; and with such official encouragement and support, the beneficial results to the community as a whole are bound to be apparent long before the present generation begins to make way for the next.

HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

(12th September.)

Judging from the way the papers in other ports have quoted the fact that one or two Chinese captains of steam launches have recently been fined at the Magistracy for unnecessarily blowing the steam whistles of their launches, Hongkong is evidently being looked up to as a model in its regard for the amenities of civilisation. The case brought before the Court a few days ago when the proprietor of the North Point Engine Works was mulcted in a fine of \$75 for disturbing the slumbers of a respected citizen by using a hammer instead of a roller for straightening out iron plates will maintain our reputation in this respect. There must be many Captain Outties residing within earshot of the hammers which in the course of a couple of years will be beating iron in the new Admiralty Dock, who have made a mental note of this case. Our late Governor thought that even Government House would be intolerable as a place of residence when ships are under repair in the new Dock; and so with this precedent on record at the Magistracy we may expect to see the Admiralty charged by and bye with a similar offence, for the Dock, situated where it is, is bound to prove an insufferable nuisance to residents within a quarter of a mile of it.

A curious remark was made by Mr. Justice Sercombe Smith in the case in which three Chinese servants sued a European lady for wages alleged to be due to them. "You might be insolent to your mistress," his lordship is reported to have said, "but if you are insolent in this Court it will be at your own risk." Judges, like the rest of us, do not always say precisely what they mean, and that his lordship in this case did not mean what he said is shown, I hope, by the advice he gave the lady to summon the three servants to the police court and have them punished. But punished for what? The insolence or the assault? Both, I hope the Judge meant, for it would never do to give servants to understand on judicial authority that they may be insolent to their mistresses. The modern Chinese servant in Hongkong is in no need of advice of that kind. They are far too prone already to be insolent, and if they are not always taught by the mistress they often are by "the master" that their insolence is attended with risks.

The circular letter which has been sent out with the object of strengthening the local Volunteer Force is a business-like way of going about the matter. His Excellency the Governor is of opinion that the Hongkong Volunteer Corps is not of the strength required to enable it to take its proper share in the defence of the Colony, and so eligible young men are individually asked to join the Force. With a Volunteer Reserve Association, and an association of ladies trained in ambulance work, this little outpost of Empire will be—well, what it ought to be in this respect.

BANYAN.

With reference to the scheme put forward by the Nanking Viceroy in substitution for the arrangement under the protocol of 1901, Mr. Conger asked China what guarantee she would give that the work would be taken promptly in hand and carried to a completion. Yesterday, says the *Times'* Peking correspondent on August 7th, he received a reply. The Viceroy of Nanking had offered to contribute Tls. 460,000 (about £57,500) yearly, taking on himself the entire burden of the work, and yesterday the Waiwpu, in a despatch confirming the offer, informed Mr. Conger that China would pledge for the purpose the opium and inland revenues of Szechuan province, at present yielding Tls. 400,000 (about £50,000) yearly, and the opium revenues of Su-chow prefecture, in the north-west of Kiang-su, where in the old bed of the Yellow River the finest opium in China is grown, yielding at present Tls. 200,000 (about £25,000) a year. China states that these revenues are unpledged for any loan or service whatever. The proposal has been submitted to Washington, where it is expected to meet with approval.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 14th instant in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

HON. COLONEL L. F. BROWN (Commanding the Troops).

HON. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

HON. E. H. SHARP, K.C. (Attorney-General).

HON. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Colonial Treasurer).

HON. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

HON. CAPTAIN L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE, R.N. (Harbour Master).

HON. P. N. H. JONES (Director of Public Works).

HON. SIR C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

HON. DR. HO KAI, C.M.G.

HON. WEI A YUK.

HON. R. SHEWAN.

HON. GERSHOM STEWART.

HON. W. J. GRESSON.

MR. S. B. C. ROSS (Clerk of Councils).

TAKING THE OATH.

Colonel Louis Faulkner Brown, as Senior Military Officer in Command of H. M.'s Regular Corps, Mr. Ernest Hamilton Sharp, K.C. and Mr. Gershom Stewart were duly sworn and took their seats as members.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos. 41 to 47) and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was adopted.

IMPORTATION AND INSPECTION OF ANIMALS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the following amendment of bye-laws made under section 16 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903: The Bye-law No. 1 under the heading "Importation and Inspection of Animals" has been amended and reads as follows:—No cattle, swine, sheep or goats shall be landed at Blake Pier, Queen's Statue Wharf or Murray Pier, and no such animal shall be landed at any wharf in Kowloon except the Police Wharf at Yaumati, and swine at the Hunghom Pier opposite the Slaughter-house. No such animal shall be landed at any wharf whatever between the hours of 6 p.m. and 6 a.m.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

SISTERS' QUARTERS AT THE CIVIL HOSPITAL.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS laid on the table the following report of proceedings of the Public Works Committee at a meeting held on the 19th July.

The Chairman, Hon. P. N. H. Jones, said that, at Sir Paul Chater's request, which was made at the last meeting of the Committee held on the 12th inst., he had asked for an explanation of the position from the Government, and the following statement, which he read out, made it quite clear:—The correspondence shows clearly that the Nursing Institute dissociated itself from the Government Nursing Establishment altogether, and shows that Government offered to build a four-roomed house for the nurses of the private institution (Hongkong Nursing Institution), but that no site was fixed on. Subsequently the Hongkong Nursing Institution obtained a grant of \$12,000 in lieu of the provision of such quarters, and there the matter rests. The Government has not promised any particular site to the Hongkong Nursing Institution. Sir Paul Chater said it was as well to have this on record. The Chairman then put to the vote the matter of the extension of the present Government Civil Hospital Staff Quarters for the sisters, at an estimated cost of \$26,000, and it was unanimously agreed to.

THE REVISED ORDINANCES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved as follows:—"Resolved that the thanks of the Council be conveyed to Sir John Worrell Carrington, C.M.G., formerly Chief Justice of Hongkong, for his services in carrying through and completing the revised edition of the Colony's Ordinances." He said—Sir, I have very great pleasure in proposing this resolution standing in my name, that the thanks of the Council be

conveyed to Sir John Carrington for the excellent work he has done in the revised edition of the Ordinances. It is difficult to realise the amount of care and judgment and labour which is involved in a work such as this. Sixty years' Ordinances have had to be considered, and all those Ordinances which have expired by time, or which have been expressly repealed, or which have accomplished their purpose—all those have had to be omitted. Of the rest large numbers relating to the same subject have been collected and consolidated, and for the purpose of consolidation have often had to be to some extent amended. Naturally this work has taken time. I think the Council authorised the revision in 1900. Hon. members who were in the Colony with Sir John Carrington will remember what a large part of his leisure he devoted to the undertaking. Since his retirement he has given two years of his leisure at home to its completion. But it has been no doubt to Sir John Carrington a labour of love. His only possible return will be the public-spirited pleasure of doing a useful work and serving this Colony. Sir, I do not think we should forget the wish he expressed when he volunteered to do this work. He said he thought when the Ordinances had once been thoroughly revised that they should be kept up to date by a new edition about every ten years. Considering the growing needs of this Colony, and the unavoidable amount of new legislation, I do not think ten years is too short a period. No doubt the work in future will be comparatively light with this foundation to build upon, as Sir John Carrington has had the system to evolve and all the Ordinances to deal with, whereas future editors have the lines laid down and only new enactments to consider. This was fortunate, as the Colony could not hope to find a succession of editors as competent and as ready to give their services as Sir John Carrington. (Applause.)

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, in seconding this resolution, I can only say that hon. members, or at any rate many of them have, in the course of their avocations, to make daily references to the Ordinances, and will no doubt appreciate the great debt of gratitude they owe to Sir John Carrington for the work he has done. (Applause.)

The resolution was carried unanimously.

THE TRAMWAYS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved as follows:—"Resolved that until further notice the Hongkong Tramway Electric Co., Ltd., shall provide the following number of cars every morning and evening, at such hours not being later than 7 a.m. or earlier than 5.30 p.m. as the Company shall think most convenient, for artisans, mechanics and daily labourers, at fares not exceeding 2 cents for the single journey and 3 cents for the return journey:—

Morning.

From Kennedy Town to the Central Market 2 Cars
From Quarry Bay to the No. 2 Police Station 4 ..

Evening.

From the Central Market to Kennedy Town 2 Cars
From the No. 2 Police Station to Quarry Bay 4 ..

He said—Sir, this resolution is to decide the number of workmen's cars which, for the present, the company shall run every morning and evening. The Court is empowered to do this by the Tramway Ordinance.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report on the Assessment for 1904-5 and a Report by the Government Bacteriologist on Plague.

THE RECENT FATAL ACCIDENT IN PRAYA EAST.

HON. G. STEWART asked:—

1. Under what circumstances are coroner's inquests dispensed with?

2. Is it the case as stated in the public papers that a member of the community was picked up injured on Tuesday night, the 2nd August, and placed in a cell at the Police Station, where he was left for the night without medical aid being called for, and that he died the next day?

3. What standing instructions have the Police as to calling in medical assistance for

injured people whom they may pick up?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied as follows:—

1. The matter is one for the discretion of the Magistrate acting as Coroner. Ordinance No. 5 of 1888, section 7, provides that in cases of sudden or violent death the Magistrate may, if he considers an inquiry to be necessary, inquire into the cause of death either with or without a jury, and make such order with regard thereto as he shall consider necessary.

2. The facts are as stated. An inquest has been held.

3. The European police are instructed in cases of illness or accident to send for the nearest surgeon or to convey the sufferer to hospital. The Indian and Chinese police are instructed to convey any person whom they may find dangerously wounded, seriously ill, or suffering from any grave accident, to hospital and to report the matter.

TREE-CUTTING.

HON. R. SHEWAN also asked the following questions:—

1. Is the tree-cutting at present going on on the Island of Hongkong authorised by Government?

2. If so, will the Government give its reasons for such tree-cutting?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied as follows

1. Yes.

2. The tree-cutting is part of the scheme of forestry by which the Government intend to maintain for future generations the same advantages as are now enjoyed by the present one from the beauty, salubrity, water conservancy and timber production of the pine plantations. If the mature trees were not gradually replaced by young ones these advantages would soon be lost. The methods employed are those usually practised for the maintenance of closely planted coniferous forest. In order to plant it is necessary to fell, but every possible consideration will be paid each year to the interests of the residents at the time.

FIRST READINGS.

On the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, the following Bills were read a first time:—A Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Wild Birds and Game Preservation Ordinance, 1885; a Bill entitled an Ordinance for enabling the Tung Wa Hospital to acquire, hold, mortgage and sell land and hereditaments in the Colony of Hongkong; a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Prepared Opium Ordinance, 1891; a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1897.

INTERMENT OF REFUGEES.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to regulate the interment of refugees belonging to the Russian and Japanese forces.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL then moved the suspension of Standing Order No. 38 so that the Bill might now be read a second time. He said—Sir, the objects and reasons attached to this Bill will show it is one of urgency although the Bill is purely formal in character. Some refugee combatants being in the Colony, it is desirable that regulations should at once be made regarding their interment.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Bill was then read a second time, and after passing through Committee was read a third time and passed.

The objects and reasons attached to the Bill are:—The object of this Bill is the regulation, in accordance with the principles of international law, of the interment of any person belonging to the forces of Russia or Japan who, during the present war between those countries, may seek refuge under the British jurisdiction, and may come within this Colony. The immediate occasion for the Bill is that certain officers and men of the Russian torpedo boat destroyer *Burns* (which was lately stranded on the coast of China) sought refuge at Wei-hai-wei, and came thence to Hongkong, and are now interned here in accordance with the principles aforesaid, and with the instructions of the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

THE OPIUM AMENDMENT BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL before introducing the Opium Bill mentioned among the

first readings moved the withdrawal of the original Amendment Bill. He said—It was laid for the first time before the Council on 20th February. A new Bill has been circulated, which it is considered will enable us to go forward at once, as the matter was very fully discussed before the Council. While affording the Opium Farmer proper protection the new Bill preserves the trade in compounds of opium, such as opium wines and pills, and also preserves the export trade.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

PUBLIC SERVICE VOTE.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding five million eight hundred and forty-five thousand four hundred and seventy dollars to the Public Service of the year 1905. He said—Sir, in connection with this Bill I beg to lay on the table the Estimates for 1905, a Memorandum explanatory of the Estimates of Revenue, a Memorandum explanatory of the Estimates of Expenditure, a Financial Statement in connection with the Estimates, and an Abstract showing the differences between the expenditure in 1904 and 1905, which I trust will be of some use to members studying the Estimates.

In the original Estimates for the current year a surplus of \$76,959 was estimated.

The Revised Estimate of Ordinary Revenue (that is Revenue exclusive of Land Sales) for the year 1904 exceeds the original estimate by \$55,083.

It is necessary here to point out that in the original Estimate a sum of \$87,000 was entered twice by mistake. The original Estimate should therefore be reduced by that sum and the real excess is \$142,083. The revised Estimate of ordinary expenditure, thanks principally to the high rate of exchange that has prevailed throughout the year and to some economies, is less than the original estimate by \$166,248. Land sales are expected to realise \$100,000 more than the Estimate, but the expenditure on Public Works Extraordinary is estimated to exceed the original estimate by \$260,944. The result is that an additional surplus of \$60,387, making a total of \$137,346, is anticipated, which with arrears for 1904 less the balance of liabilities of \$62,711 with which we entered upon the year, will give a balance of assets on 31st December of \$207,635. Turning to the Estimates for 1905, the Estimate of ordinary revenue exceeds the revised Estimate for current year by \$435,220. The Memorandum explanatory of the Revenue shows the increases. The Estimate of ordinary expenditure for 1905 exceeds the revised Estimate for current year by \$268,191. The principal items of increase are shown in a recapitulation of the Estimates of expenditure, which may be of use to members. The Departments to which the principal new appointments have been added are the Treasury, Botanical, Education, Medical, Police, and Sanitary Departments. The Estimated Ordinary Revenue for 1905 exceeds the Estimated Ordinary Expenditure by \$1,338,719. Land sales are expected to realise \$500,000, while Public Works Extraordinary are estimated at the largest figure in the history of the Colony—\$1,815,310, leaving an estimated surplus of \$23,419. These figures I think are very satisfactory. I may mention that it is just possible that some of the items of revenue may not be realised, and should such a contingency arise the Government will bring before the Council methods in which it can be dealt with.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Possibly as this is the first time during my administration the Estimates have been introduced hon. members might like to hear a few words from me with regard to them. The Estimates this year are practically obligatory Estimates, that is to say it has not been possible, even if it had been considered desirable, to start on any new policy or to make any considerable changes in the expenditure of the Departments. It is practically a Public Works Estimate. We have entered into a large number of important operations, into contracts with these operations, and have to carry them through. The principal ones are Waterworks. For these works we propose to spend \$800,000 out of a total of \$1,815,310, that is to say 44 per cent. of the Public Works Extra-

ordinary vote. The other works to which we are committed are the Bacteriological Laboratory, the Harbour Office, the Law Courts, the Western Market and the Post Office, all of which are in hand. For these \$490,000 out of \$1,815,310 are required, that is to say 26 per cent.; and again for resumption—the necessity for which cannot be questioned for the improvement of the sanitary condition of the town—we have estimated for \$150,000 or 8 per cent. of the total. Practically these are all continuation surpluses, and the new surpluses which are numbered 4, 8, 11, 12, 14 and 16 on the last pages of the Estimate, are comparatively small works. The result of this compulsorily large vote on Public Works is that for the Public Works this year the department, Recurrent and Extraordinary, we shall spend 34 per cent. of the estimated revenue. For defence against external aggression—that is for military purposes—we spend 19 per cent. For maintenance of law and order, 12, 17 and 18, we spend 13 per cent. On 11, 6 and 19, we spend 11; for the Post Office, 5 per cent.; for public instruction, 14 and 15, 3 per cent.; and on general administration—3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 20, 21 and 22—in all 9 per cent. I think these figures must be of some interest as exemplifying that this is largely a Public Works Department Estimate, and that it is not one of contracts gone into which we can alter if we so desire. Certainly on the large expenditure on the water, which improves the sanitary conditions, I do not think any alteration would be desirable. (Applause.)

Hon. R. SHEWAN—Sir, I have only one remark, though it is not usual I know to criticise the Estimates on the first reading; but in order that the Director of Public Works may come prepared at the second reading I should like to know if he really expects the money put down to be spent? On a previous occasion the D. P. W. admitted that he never expected to spend the money.

HIS EXCELLENCY was understood to say that doubtless the Hon. Director of Public Works would be able to satisfy the Council on that point.

The motion was agreed to.

The Council adjourned *sine die*.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held after the Council—the Colonial Secretary, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., presiding.

The following votes were passed:—

FORESTRY LICENCE CLERK.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$195 in aid of the vote Botanical and Afforestation Department, Personal Emoluments, being salary for a Forestry Licence Clerk, New Territory, from 5th August to 31st December, 1904.

PUBLIC WORKS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$300,300, in aid of the Public Works Recurrent and Public Works Extraordinary, for the following items:—

PUBLIC WORKS RECURRENT.

Maintenance of telegraphs	8 3,500
Maintenance of telegraphs	
New Territory	2,500
Maintenance of Praya wall and piers	1,500
Maintenance of Roads and Bridges in New Territory	2,000
Maintenance of Sewers, Nullahs, &c.	2,000
Miscellaneous Services	4,000
Drainage Works, Miscellaneous	9,000
Maintenance of Water-works, City and Hill District	16,000
Maintenance of Water-works, Kowloon	4,000
	\$ 44,500

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

Disinfecting Station, Kowloon	\$13,800
Gunpowder Depot, Green Island	40,000
Harbour Office	17,000
Law Courts	51,000
Market, Western	22,000
Road across King's Park	5,000
Water-works:—Tytam Byewash Reservoir	7,000

Tytam Tuk Scheme	100,000
	255,800

Total ... \$ 300,300

NEW TERRITORY LAND COURT DEPARTMENT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$700 in aid of the vote Land Court, New Territory, Other Charges, for purchase, refloating and repair of houseboat for use of Land Court Department as an Office in the New Territory.

RIDER MAINS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$30,052, for the following items on account of the Rider Mains Work, chargeable to Advance Account:—

PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS.

Assistant Engineer, at £360 per annum—	
Salary from 5th March to 16th April, 1904	\$ 228.65
Full Salary from 17th April to 31st December	2,913.36
	\$3,142.01

Overseer, at £180 per annum—	
Salary from 26th February to 12th April, 1904	\$ 124.76
Full Salary from 13th April to 31st December	1,478.87
	1,603.63

Clerk—from 26th July to 25th October, 1904, at \$960 per annum	\$ 240.00
from 26th October to 31st December, at \$1,200 per annum	219.35
	459.35

Total Personal Emoluments, ... \$ 5,204.99

OTHER CHARGES.

Conveyance Allowances, \$244 per annum—	
Assistant Engineer from 17th April to 31st December, 1904	\$ 172.15
Overseer from 13th April to 31st December	174.86
Estimated Cost of No. 1 Rider-Main District—Labour and Material	15,000.00
Service Connections to every house in No. 1 District	9,000.00
Incidental Expenses	500.00

Total, Other Charges ... 24,847.01

Total, ... \$30,052.00

PRAYA EAST RECLAMATION.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$24,893, of which \$16,892.05 is a re-vote of an unexpended balance of the vote Public Works Extraordinary, (24) Praya East Reclamation, for raising the carriageway and the footpaths from Arsenal Street to Jardine's Bazaar, Praya East, chargeable to Advance Account.

TELEGRAMS.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$1,500 in aid of the vote for Telegraph Service—telegrams sent and received by Government—under Miscellaneous Services.

FIRE BRIGADE.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$4,700 in aid of the vote Fire Brigade, Other Charges, for repairs to engines, hose, &c., gratuities.

This was all the business.

SUPREME COURT.

Saturday, 10th September.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE.)

AN INSULT.

Chan Sih Sam sued Wong Po Ting and another for \$140, being money paid to defendants by plaintiff for the purpose of securing a passage ticket to London, which defendant failed to secure.

Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro appeared for the plaintiff, but defendant was unrepresented. After evidence was led, His Honour gave judgment for defendant with costs.

During the examination of the defendant he referred to England as the "Red-haired country." The Puisse Judge held that the phrase was insulting and fined defendant \$5.

HUSBAND'S LIABILITY.

K. H. Mahomed sued A. H. Tavares (of the Victoria Hairdressing Saloon) and his wife for

\$428.80, being money due for goods sold and delivered to Mrs. Tavares.

Mr. H. W. Looker (of Messrs Deacon, Looker and Deacon) appeared for the plaintiff, while Mr. Tavares was defended by Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro.)

Mr. Slade, after evidence had been led, contended that it was perfectly clear that plaintiff gave credit, on his own admission, to the wife of defendant alone, and it was laid down in law that that did not entitle him to sue the husband. He submitted that the evidence was in favour of the defendant's story that during the time the debts were supposed to be contracted defendant's wife was in Macao, and not in Hongkong, and if that was accepted as being true then the plaintiff's case was one of fraud. It was very unlikely that Mrs. Tavares would have come to Hongkong to purchase goods at plaintiff's shop when plaintiff had a shop in Macao. The wife, he continued, had sufficient money to purchase necessities with, but it had not yet been proven that the articles purchased were necessary. Plaintiff had to prove that to establish his case. Among the articles on the list Mr. Slade enumerated were:—4 pieces of white embroidery, \$60; lace, black stockings, and so on. One item in particular, one case assorted perfumes, \$45, Mr. Slade contended, could not be classed among necessities. From June 16th the wife had been living apart from her husband without his consent, and if that was so she had no legal claim; defendant did not protest against her remaining away until the end of June, when he objected strongly and wrote to her to return. Again, plaintiff was expressly warned not to give her credit, but it was suggested that Mr. Tavares had acted in such a manner as to make plaintiff believe that his wife had authority to purchase on his credit. That was not so, and Mr. Slade, after quoting several authorities, contended that his client was entitled to judgment.

Mr. Looker said that it appeared that Mr. and Mrs. Tavares had been living together up to the end of last year and at the beginning of this year in a perfectly happy manner, and, judging from the appearance of the defendant, in good style. Early in this year defendant and his wife went together to the plaintiff's shop and made certain purchases, the husband buying goods for himself and the wife buying various articles. Not having sufficient money with her to pay the whole bill the wife paid a portion in cash and subsequently paid the remainder. Defendant admitted he went there on that occasion and that he gave his wife the money to pay the bill. He did not then warn the plaintiff that he must look to defendant's wife for payment. Some time after a little trouble arose between defendant and his wife, defendant seemingly being jealous of his wife's conduct regarding Mr. Luz, one of his assistants, who appeared to be loosening his wife's affections from him. A suggestion had been made that it was really Luz who had held himself out to be liable for the payment of the bill, but there was no evidence on that point. After the trouble, on April 26, defendant's wife went to Macao for a day, defendant supplying her with \$700 for her expenses and to have certain repairs done to his house. Mrs. Tavares remained in Macao until June 16, when she returned to Hongkong. In no sense could it be said that they were living apart up till that time. When Mrs. Tavares came back to Macao they had a "big row" over Mr. Luz, and Mrs. Tavares left again for Macao, where she still remained. The conditions appertaining in England, where they had a Married Women's Property Act, were different from those ruling here. Mr. Looker contended that Mr. Tavares acted so as to lead the plaintiff to believe that if his wife failed to pay the bill he would. In connection with necessities Mr. Looker argued that what was a necessity to rich people was absolutely luxury to poor people, and the position held by defendant's wife was such as would make the articles purchased necessities to her if she was to keep up the same style as her husband. Defendant wore a diamond pin worth \$600, a diamond ring worth thousands, and his heavily jewellery-laden person denoted considerable wealth. Defendant did not supply his wife with sufficient money when she went to Macao. She had \$700 which was to be expended on the first day, and after that she was to get \$20 per month as interest

on some money lent in Macao. That was not sufficient for her, and it was defendant's duty to have advertised if he did not intend to pay her bills. When the plaintiff took his bill to the defendant, the latter waved a handful of notes, amounting to over a thousand dollars, in the air and exclaimed, 'I have plenty of money, but I won't pay you.' In all the circumstances, Mr. Looker contended, the case for the plaintiff had been proven, and he asked for judgment for whatever amount His Honour held as reasonable.

The Puisne Judge reviewed the evidence and dealt with the arguments of both sides at some length. He was satisfied that up to May all the transactions between plaintiff and the defendants were in cash, and that on May 28 defendant told the plaintiff not to give his wife any credit. Mrs. Tavares went to Macao with \$700 and had to receive \$20 monthly, which, in his opinion, was sufficient to purchase necessities. He was of opinion that the husband was not liable for goods which had been supplied to his wife during the months of May, June and July, and gave judgment for defendant.

Mr. Slade applied for his costs, but the Puisne Judge declined to allow them, remarking that there was no need for the appearance of counsel; Mr. Looker had conducted the case for the plaintiff admirably.

Tuesday, 13th September.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

YEUNG Ah PUI v. J. J. GUTTEREZ.

The plaintiff, in this suit, a trader of Lok Hing Lane, sought to obtain payment from the defendant, a clerk in the employ of Messrs. Jebson & Co. in respect of a promissory note payable on demand for \$58, with interest at three per cent per month for the past eleven months, amounting in all to \$78.35. Mr. Harding, solicitor, appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor, for the defendant. When the case was called on, plaintiff was absent.

Judgment was given for defendant with costs.

Wednesday, 14th September.

At the Supreme Court yesterday, in summary jurisdiction, J. E. Barker, staying at Thomas' Hotel, was sued by Cassum Amed for \$37, money due for clothes supplied. His Honour T. Sercombe Smith, the Puisne Judge, gave judgment for the plaintiff with costs.

Thursday, 15th September.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR HENRY
S. BERKELEY (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ACTION FOR PERFORMANCE OF AN
AGREEMENT.

Wong Lut Yan, merchant, 151, Des Vœux Road, sued Tam Chak U, landowner, 61, Des Vœux Road, for specific performance of an agreement made between the plaintiff as vendor and the defendant as purchaser, on 28th May, 1903, for the sale by plaintiff to defendant of the Remaining Portion of Inland Lot No. 1,216 subject to a certain mortgage registered in the Land Office, and to the payment of \$27,500, portion of the principal sum of \$100,000 and interest. Plaintiff asked alternatively for \$10,000 damages. Hon. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Evens and Harston, solicitors) appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor), was for the defence.

Hon. Mr. Sharp in submitting the documents in the case stated that in the statement of defence, defendant stated that he paid \$6,150 bargain money on the faith of a representation falsely made to him by Cheung Fu Chan, the broker who was employed by the plaintiff to negotiate the sale of the property, to the effect that the property was let for \$650 per month when it was let only for \$250. He made a counter claim for \$6,150. Plaintiff denied that the broker had any authority to make such a representation as alluded to.

Mr. Slade said that about the end of May last year a broker called upon the defendant and offered for sale this property, which consisted of six houses known as Richmond Terrace. It belonged to the plaintiff, and the broker was authorised by him in writing to negotiate on his behalf. The broker demanded a price of \$64,000. Afterwards the price of \$81,500 was agreed upon. Defendant did not know the property at this time. The broker informed him verbally that the property was let for \$650 a month, in consequence of which representation he agreed to buy it. He told the broker that there was nothing on the order authorising the sale to show that the rent was \$650 per month. Then the broker took away the order and brought it back with a paragraph added, stating that the rent was \$650. The bargain being arranged for, defendant went to look at the houses and found that only two of them were let, while the other four had been unoccupied for a long time.

Evidence was led, after which an adjournment was made till to-day (Friday) at half-past ten.

IN BANKRUPTCY.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR HENRY S.
BERKELEY (CHIEF JUSTICE)
A DECEASED DEBTOR.

Mr. John Hays, of Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master, solicitors, appeared in support of a petition for a receiving order in the matter of Chan Kam, deceased, ex parte Li Kwan Ting. Administration, he said, had been granted in June to Mr. Seth as Official Administrator, and it appeared that the estate was insolvent at present.

The order was granted.

A BANKRUPT FIRM.

Wong Lin Wan applied for a receiving order in respect of the estate of the Fung Kee firm. Mr. P. W. Goldring, solicitor, of Mr. G. K. Hall Brutton's office, appeared in support of the application and put in an affidavit by the petitioning creditor stating that the debtor firm was indebted to him in the sum of \$2,777 on two promissory notes.

His Lordship made an order.

A BIG ESTATE.

In the case of Ng Yu San, ex parte Ng Shu Ting, Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor, applied for a receiving order. He said the assets in Hongkong were about \$6,000, and out of the jurisdiction of the Court there were assets of about \$85,000, most of which were recoverable. Liabilities amounted to \$100,000.

The order was granted.

A CAPTIVE DEBTOR.

In the matter of Hon Hung Lung Lan, ex parte Leung Tai Tai, Mr. John Hays made an application on behalf of the petitioning creditor, a widow, for a receiving order, the debtor being indebted to her in \$600.

The order was made.

Mr. John Hastings, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the debtor, who is in gaol, and asked that he be released from custody. He was in custody under an Original suit on an order made for security.

Mr. Hays remarked that they had been served with no application.

His Lordship pointed out that the man was not in gaol under any Bankruptcy proceedings, and the Court was sitting in Bankruptcy.

Mr. Hastings contended that the proper method was to make application for his release in Bankruptcy.

His Lordship held to the contrary, and said he would consider the application on the following day.

Mr. Hays asked that the date of hearing any application be made later.

His Lordship said he had made a receiving order and they could not keep a man in gaol after he had been made bankrupt.

A DISCHARGE.

Frederick Nolte petitioned for a discharge from bankruptcy, and was represented by Mr. Goldring, who stated in answer to his Lordship that there was no opposition so far as he knew.

His Lordship said there would be a suspension of the operation. For how long?

The Official Receiver (Mr. Bruce Shepherd) thought about six months. He applied for the discharge on the ground that in his opinion the bankrupt could not pay a dividend of 80 per cent.

His Lordship granted the discharge subject to suspension for six months.
The Court adjourned.

Friday, 16th September.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR HENRY S. BERKELEY (CHIEF JUSTICE).

ACTION FOR PERFORMANCE OF AN AGREEMENT.

Evidence for the defendant was resumed in the case in which Wong Lut Yan, merchant, 151, Des Vœux Road, sued Tam Chak U. landowner, 61, Des Vœux Road, for specific performance of an agreement made between the plaintiff as vendor and the defendant as purchaser, on 28th May, 1903, for the sale by plaintiff to defendant of the Remaining Portion of Inland Lot No. 1,216, subject to a certain mortgage registered in the Land Office, and to the payment of \$27,500, portion of the principal sum of \$100,000 and interest. Plaintiff asked alternatively for \$10,000 damages. Hon. E. H. Sharp, K.C., barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors), appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. M. W. Slade, barrister-at-law (instructed by Mr. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, solicitor), was for the defence. The property involved is the six houses comprising Richmond Terrace.

Defendant in his statement of defence said he paid \$6,150 bargain money on the faith of a representation falsely made to him by Cheung Fu Chan, the broker who was employed by the plaintiff to negotiate the sale of the property, to the effect that the property was let for \$650 per month, when it was let only for \$250. He made a counter-claim for \$6,150. Plaintiff denied that the broker had any authority to make such a representation as alluded to.

Hon. Mr. Sharp, K.C., in opening the case for the plaintiff, said that when the defendant showed an inclination to purchase the property, the gardener showed him and the broker the end house; then he unlocked the next house to it. Defendant was told that the end house was a type of all six houses, and he replied that he had seen all that he wanted and did not want to see any more. There was some conversation as to what sort of rents might be expected. Defendant was informed, he believed, that the house he had seen had been let for \$160—it had just been newly done up; the other end house was let for \$96, and the four inside houses could be let for something like \$60 each. At the end of the inspection defendant practically made an offer of \$60,000 for the property, plaintiff asking \$70,000. Defendant afterwards made another inspection. When he next saw the broker and told him he had again visited the premises he still offered him \$60,000, which was refused. On 23rd May the broker abandoned hope of getting his \$70,000 and reduced the price to \$62,000. Eventually the price of \$61,500 was agreed upon. There was no mention of rents on the order of sale, as it was given out by the plaintiff to the broker.

Further evidence was led, and the case was further adjourned.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH (PUISNE JUDGE).

AN AMAH'S WAGES.

A Chinese amah, proceeded against her late employer, Mr. E. Ezra, for \$9 wages due for August.

The evidence of the plaintiff went to show that on 31st August Mrs. Ezra had occasion to reprimand the amah, finally striking her. Thereupon the amah said:—'Mistress, you beat me, I can leave; you cannot beat me.' The amah stated that Mrs. Ezra replied: 'You can go; I won't pay you'; and the amah left.

Defendant admitted that the amah worked during the whole of August, leaving on 1st September.

The Puisse Judge gave judgment for plaintiff with costs, remarking that, as the amah had worked during the whole of August, she was entitled to be paid. Had she left in the

middle of the month without giving notice, the law was that she was not entitled to any wages for that term.

MARINE COURT.

Wednesday, 14th September.

BEFORE HON. CAPT. L. BARNES-LAWRENCE, R.N. (MARINE MAGISTRATE).

"YING KING" v. "WING CHAI."

Ernest James Page, master of the river-steamer *Ying King*, charged Samuel Bell-Smith, master of the river-steamer *Wing Chai*, with failing to observe the "rules of the road," on the night of the 4th inst. Mr. J. Haas, solicitor, prosecuted on behalf of the complainant; and Mr. E. J. Grist, solicitor, appeared on behalf of the defendant.

Hon. Barnes-Lawrence said:—

The evidence given for the prosecution viz. by the master, the chief officer and a passenger, on board the *Ying King* is all in agreement. They affirmed that their vessel was overtaking the *Wing Chai*, and that when the vessel was bearing about one point on the *Ying King's* port bow, and distant some 300 to 400 yards one short blast was blown on the *Ying King* to indicate that she would pass the *Wing Chai* on her starboard side, and her helm ported accordingly. The witnesses were also agreed in their statement that on this whistle being blown the *Wing Chai* deliberately attempted to cross the bows of their ship, which had to give way by porting in consequence. The point that governs this case lies in the fact as to whether, on hearing the *Ying King's* whistle sounded, the helm of the *Wing Chai* was, bearing in mind Article 21, moved. The evidence given on behalf of the defence was somewhat conflicting. The first witness called, a passenger on board the *Wing Chai*, who was seated on the port side of that vessel's bridge, affirmed that when he heard the whistle of the *Ying King* blown she was on the port quarter of the vessel he was in, i.e. in reply to the question clearly put, she was on his right hand looking aft, with water between her and a continuation of the taffrail of the *Wing Chai*. The evidence of the master and chief officer of the *Wing Chai* was that the *Ying King* was on the starboard quarter, and, as this agrees with the statement of the *Ying King's* witness, it leads one to the conclusion that this passenger's evidence, who admits that he was star-gazing, is of no value in assisting one to a solution, and may be disregarded. Coming now to the evidence of the master of the *Wing Chai*, it transpired that at the time of the occurrence he was standing in front of and outside the wheel-house—the pilot being just behind and inside the wheel-house, presumably conning the ship. On hearing the *Ying King's* whistle the master immediately ran to the starboard side of the bridge. There he observed the two side lights and the mast-head light of the *Ying King*. The evidence of the chief officer of the *Wing Chai*, also on the bridge, was that after the *Ying King* had blown her whistle he observed only her red (port) light, having previously seen all her three lights. This evidence is conflicting inasmuch that the master saw all three lights. It can only be inferred that as the *Ying King* had ported on blowing her whistle he could only have seen all three lights by porting the helm of his own ship—otherwise he would only have seen the red light as the chief officer states to have done. The evidence given by the pilot of the *Wing Chai* is decidedly contradictory. By models he clearly demonstrated that on hearing the *Ying King's* whistle the wheel of the *Wing Chai* was moved to starboard. The evidence of the defence is therefore that of the master who, from his position at the starboard end of the bridge, was not in a position to say how the wheel was handled; that of the chief officer, who was on the port side of the bridge, placed thereby in similar circumstances; and that of the pilot and helmsman, who alone, if they desired to, could give conclusive evidence. It has been shown that the pilot's evidence is not dependable, as I have no reason to believe that he regarded the question I very clearly put to him as one representing a mythical case; and that the vessel's head moved to starboard. On

further questioning, however, he was emphatic in his statement that the vessel's course was never altered. His interpretations of the meaning of the one short blast, on board the *Ying King*, was also for a pilot far from reassuring, as he stated that it meant that the other vessel was turning to port, when, as a matter of fact, it meant just the reverse. I am unable to come to any other conclusion than that the helm of the *Wing Chai*, on hearing the *Ying King's* whistle, was ported—not however necessarily to any extent—and that it was so done with the view, in yachting parlance, of blanketing her rival steamer. By the evidence elicited from her master it is only fair to believe that he had himself given no directions to the helmsman, and may indeed have been ignorant of the movement of the helm which evidently took place, when somewhat unfortunately he left the vicinity of the wheel, and the direction of affairs was temporarily in the hands of the pilot alone. How far the pilot takes charge on these runs I have not been able to discover, but in no wise is the master absolved from responsibility in the event of an accident.

Taking all the circumstances into consideration I hold the master of the *Wing Chai* to blame, in that he enabled it to be possible for the helm of his ship to be moved to the extent of deviating from her course at a time when, due to the proximity of an overtaking vessel, he should have used every endeavour to keep a direct course.

Sentenced to pay a fine of \$100. In default of payment, 14 days' imprisonment.

THE HONGKONG COTTON SPINNING, WEAVING AND DYEING CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The seventh ordinary meeting of the shareholders in the above Company was held at the offices of the General Managers (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co.) on the 10th inst. The Hon. W. J. Gresson presided, and there were also present Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Messrs. A. G. Wood (Directors), R. C. Wilcox, W. A. C. Cruickshank, F. Smyth, H. Gittins, Lo Cheung Shiu, Ho U Shang, Yuen Hop, Sang Kee, Hon. Kon Loong, R. A. Ferguson, A. Shaw (Manager) and A. Brooke Smith (secretary).

The notice convening the meeting having been read.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, following the usual procedure at meetings in this Colony, I propose, with your approval, to take the report and statement of accounts, which have been in your hands for some days, as read. During the period covered by the accounts now before you, we, in common with all others engaged in the cotton spinning industry, have passed through trying, and what we must may prove to be abnormal times. Owing to the high prices of cotton for many months past, and to there being no corresponding increase in the price of yarn, our mill since the beginning of the year has only been worked 4, instead of 6½, days per week. We have also suffered somewhat by business in the districts supplied from Newchwang and Chefoo, the chief outlet for our yarn, being greatly hampered since the outbreak of hostilities between Russia and Japan. At the moment the outlook, though leaving much to be desired, is brighter than it has been for some time, as we are approaching the marketing of the growing cotton crop, which, if the acreage planted is any guide, should be a large one, whilst indications point to a satisfactory state of trade in the country recently vacated by the Russian Army. It is to be hoped that this year's yield of cotton will exceed the world's requirements, as stocks are small in all the chief markets, and until a bumper crop is realized we cannot expect to see low priced raw material, an essential factor for the welfare of the cotton spinning industry. This year we have not suffered to any great extent from plague, which you will remember caused us considerable anxiety during the first six months of 1903. You will doubtless be interested to know that since short time was adopted the whole of the machinery at the mill has been thoroughly overhauled and is now in an efficient state of repair. Before proposing

the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions you may wish to put.

No questions being asked.

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and account.

Mr. B. C. WILCOX seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

Mr. SMYTH proposed that Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Mr. A. G. Wood be re-elected as the Consulting Committee.

Mr. YUEN HOP seconded, and the proposition was agreed to.

Mr. W. A. C. CRICKSHANK proposed, and Mr. LO CHEUNG SHUI seconded, the re-election of the auditor, Mr. Frank Maitland.

This having been carried, the meeting terminated.

The CHAIRMAN announced that dividend warrants would be ready to-day.

THE CHINESE ENGINEERING & MINING CO., LD.

The annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Chinese Engineering & Mining Co., Ltd., was to be held in London on the 13th Sept.

According to the directors' report, the net result of the year's transactions shows a balance to the credit of profit and loss account of £102,820, made up as follows:—

Net profit after providing for all charges in China	£151,685
Add balance brought forward from last year	£2,119
Gross receipts in London	2,754
	4,873

	£156,558
Deduct expenditure in Europe, viz:	
Salaries, stores, &c.	£5,906
Debenture interest	29,900
Debenture redemption	10,000
Directors' fees	3,250
Preliminary expenses proportion written off	4,682
	53,738

Leaving a net balance of £102,820 which the directors propose to dispose of as follows:—

In placing to reserve for depreciation	£20,000
In payment of a dividend of 7½ per cent. for the year	75,000
Carrying forward	7,820
	£102,820

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

10th September.

VICEROY SHUM.

It is said that H.E. Shum, the Viceroy, will return to Canton about the 15th of the 8th moon, he having ordered a reception room to be nicely fitted up in the Viceroy's yamen for the reception of guests. It is to be fitted with glass in every room so as to overlook the people at work.

NEW CHINESE COMMERCIAL FLAG.

The flag henceforth to be used by the Chinese merchants for their houses on boats is red with a yellow moon in the centre, and in the moon is a green three or four-clawed dragon. A dragon with five claws, representing the Imperial, is to be used by the officials only. Permission has been granted by the Waiwupu at Peking for this purpose, and communicated to the Commissioners of Customs at different ports, the Chinese officials, Consular authorities and the Ministers of the different nations. But the China Steamship Navigation Company, in which the officials have the greater interest, is allowed as hitherto to retain its flag of the present form, that is red ground with a yellow moon in the middle. A flag with two dragons represents a public company; with one dragon, a private trading company. Notifications to that effect have been issued and posted up in every district and town in China.

DWINDLING RAILWAY RECEIPTS.

When the Canton and Fatahan railway was first opened it did a very good business, the collection of fares amounting to three or four thousand dollars a day, but by degrees it fell

off to four or five hundred dollars, because of the inconvenient hours of travelling, and of taking luggage. Availing themselves of this unpopularity, the passenger boats have started again at low fares to run in competition with the railway, and are doing a roaring trade.

EXTRADITIONS.

When the ex-magistrate Pui King Fuk bolted to Macao a few months ago the ex-gambling farmer Li Sai Kwai had also run away to Hongkong, where he cut his queue, disguised himself in foreign dress, and escaped to Saigon.

The Viceroy having got information of his whereabouts sent a couple of *weiquins* to track him; but being unable to find him out the latter returned to Canton. Upon further information this time the Viceroy sent a requisition to the French authority at Saigon to have him arrested, and extradited. It is said that Li has been arrested, but the question whether he will be extradited or not remains uncertain, seeing that there has been such a lot of trouble in the extradition case of Pui King Fuk, where \$170,000 is said to have been expended in legal costs.

400 STUDENTS DROWNED.

A passenger boat overcrowded with more than 800 people was taken in tow by a steam launch, the *Hoi In*, from Waichow to Canton. When passing Sui How Ching with the swiftest head tide, the tow rope snapped, and the boat capsized. Passengers and crew were thrown into the river. About 400 of them were saved; the rest were drowned. The greater number were students who had returned from examination at Waichow.

HARD RECRUITING FOR THE TRANSVAAL.

Some time last week one Li, dressed in European clothes, was lecturing to a multitude of idlers and vagabonds in the vicinity of the Temple of Longevity. His theme was the advantage of emigration to South Africa. He asked them if they would not like to go to the golden hill to dig for gold and be rich. At last it came to the knowledge of the police, and the latter took him up to the station, accompanied by the shouting and yelling populace. In the station Li confessed that he was an emigration agent employed by a certain Yip A Kam in the Fung In Street to collect emigrants for South Africa. Thereupon the *weiquin* sent a number of police to arrest Yip. While the police were away looking for him, Yip A Kam came into the station to bail Li. He was detained and examined. He said he was employed by a foreign firm in Canton to collect emigrants. Shortly afterwards the police brought in his two partners and they also were detained in prison pending communication with the Viceroy. In other districts similar cases have happened.

POOR CRESCUS.

It is reported that a foreign watcher in the Kongmoon Native Customs has killed a Chinese passenger. The story runs as follows:—A man by name Leong, of the village Tsat Po, in the district of Sun Ui, had been to a foreign country, and was employed there for upwards of ten years. Having amassed a fortune he on the 31st August returned to his native place. On passing Kongmoon, where there is a Customs barrier, a foreign watcher went on board to search for contraband. He insisted upon Leong opening his box for him to search. Leong said that as he had a lot of money and jewellery in the box he objected to have it opened in the presence of a number of people, and asked the watcher to delay his search for a short while until the people had dispersed, and then he would let him see. Somehow or other the watcher flew into a terrific passion, and kicked Leong into the river. Leong was drowned. The bystanders who saw it, in great excitement threatened to pull down the Customs. Someone interceded for the watcher and offered to pay an indemnity of \$3,000; then the mob began to disperse.

MINING "ENTERPRISE."

As to mining enterprise in China a few words may be said. Some time ago the Viceroy Shum had arranged a loan of two millions of dollars to open mines, to fill the embankments, and to construct waterworks, but none of them have met with any success, owing certainly to the barefaced lying, squeeze, and obstruction on the part of officials, who are ever ready to put a heck upon any enterprise whenever they see no way to make money. Notifications have been

posted up in every district and town in China to invite people to open the mines, but they are not worth the paper they are written on.

KWANGTUNG TROUBLES.

By the recent heavy rains and storms many places in the province of Kwangtung have been flooded and people rendered homeless. Many districts and towns are so infested with robbers and banditti that the gentry thereof are applying to the Government for soldiers to suppress these murderous men.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

VICEROY SHUM.

Information has been received in official circles that Viceroy Shum will arrive at Wuchow on or about the 22nd inst. His Excellency is expected in Canton at the end of the month.

CHINESE ARMY REFORM.

It is reported in Canton that a telegram has been received recently from Shanghai that the War Department in Peking has sent a memorial, which has been sanctioned by the Emperor, to the Throne asking leave to dress the soldiers in European costume, cut off their queues, and drill them according to the way of Japanese.

BANDITTI.

The robbers are becoming more fierce and daring than ever. There is hardly a day on which no case of robbery is reported. Some days ago a gang of about one hundred and twenty robbers, all well armed, marched in broad daylight to the market place named Shau-Tong in Ching Un district. After every shop and house had been completely ransacked, they went on their way to the villages in the vicinity of Tai-Ping market place, where on account of frequent robberies the villagers had already removed all their valuables to other places for safety. On finding no valuables, the robbers captured about ten persons and held them for ransom. A captive surnamed Luk was redeemed for the sum of six hundred dollars, and for all the other captures the robbers demanded from one thousand to several hundred dollars.

PAKHOI.

The report on the Trade of Pakhoi for the year 1903, by Mr. Acting-Consul Hughes, has been published. It says that the total value of the trade of Pakhoi for the year 1903 shows a slight increase, as compared with the previous year, being £452,183 against £428,849, or 3,431,594 taels against 3,298,841 taels.

The spring crop of rice and other grain was a partial failure. The neighbouring free port of Kwangchow diverted a part of the trade of this port, notably in the export of sugar. The disturbed state of the country along the Kwangsi border during the past year has also naturally affected trade and agriculture. With the suppression of the disorders in that region, and of robbery and piracy generally in this part of the province, some improvement in the trade of this port might be expected, although the possibilities of Pakhoi as a distributing centre must remain very limited.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE LATE MR. DORABJI NOWROJI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS"

Kobe, 31st August.

SIR.—I most respectfully solicit your kind indulgence to permit me to make a suggestion to all nationalities through the medium of your widely-circulated journal.

The recent decease of the late Dorabji Nowroji is yet fresh in our minds, and I sincerely believe that many, very many of his admirers (of whatsoever caste) would readily acquiesce in the formation of a Committee; the object of which would be to perpetuate the memory of the late Dorabji Nowroji, by inviting the cosmopolitan communities to subscribe towards a fund for the purpose of erecting a bust of the late Dorabji Nowroji, of such a nature, and in such a place, as the Committee may decide.

It may be safely assumed that the memory of many far-less distinguished men than the late Dorabji Nowroji has been immortalised by a bust or statue; this being the case, how much

more does the memory of the late Dorabji Nowroji claim our universal attention; not in one port alone, but throughout the East where reside men to whom the memory of the late Dorabji Nowroji is now a sacred topic?

I respectfully call upon my fellow admirers to give the subject their earnest attention, and to make suggestions accordingly, presuming, of course, that you (the Editor of this journal) will kindly place a space in the columns of your paper to enable interested friends to give their opinions and suggestions.

Naturally, the formation of a Committee would be among those who were the most closely connected with the deceased gentleman, and this I am sure that all classes of people would agree with.

Personally, I should be most happy to undertake the collection of subscriptions from friends in Japan here, and as the purpose does not exclude any nationality or caste, I feel sure that a prompt response would be made to this worthy end.

If a Committee be formed, I offer my services in this matter, and would forward, to the responsible person (or persons) the amount I could collect in Japan, together with the names of donors, for publication in due form.

Sincerely trusting that this subject will be taken up in the spirit in which I make my humble suggestion.—Yours, &c.,

H. E. BOTTLEWALLA.

THE ORIGIN OF PLAGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In reading your interesting review of Dr. Hunter's report on his researches into the infectivity of the plague germ, I was rather struck by the remark that Dr. Hunter regards the discovery of the *bacillus pestis* in the blood before the bubo develops as a "new discovery." The layman who has been sufficiently interested to read the frequent medical reports on the subject of the epidemics in Hongkong must wonder, when he reads such a statement, why it has taken so long to make this discovery. It is far from being a newly-discovered fact that in plague-infected districts people have had high fever many days before a bubo appeared. (See Dr. Lowson's report on the epidemic of 1894, pp 10).—Yours truly,

LAYMAN.

HONGKONG BLUE BOOK.

The report of Mr. F. H. May to the Colonial Secretary at Home, on the Hongkong Blue Book for 1903, presented to Parliament in July, has just come from the King's Printers.

The actual financial loss on the year's working was \$157,811.60. There was a surplus of assets of \$58,556.54. The tonnage exported (coal, flour, rice, and sugar being the chief exports) was 3,985,310, or 21,847 tons more than in 1902. Rice showed a heavy decrease of 222,189 tons. The chief increase (145,780 tons) was in coal.

The full effect of the abolition of the European Sugar Bounties was not felt, the markets being still over-stocked.

When such stocks have been worked off the sugar trade generally will be relieved of a factor which has hitherto accentuated its necessarily speculative nature, and there is no reason why the local refineries should not share in the benefits likely to result.

The Cotton Spinning industry suffered (in labour) from the plague, and speculation demoralised the market. The outlook won't improve until cotton can be bought more reasonably.

If the valleys of the New Territory could be utilised for cotton plantations whereby the raw material could be procured at permanent prices, or at least at prices which could be approximately foretold, the industry would undoubtedly receive a much-needed impetus.

Better kinds of sugar cane had been successfully grown, the Castle Peak experiments turning out very well. Agriculture generally was not a subject for congratulation. New Territory included 90,000 acres under cultivation, but mostly exceedingly poor soil.

The educational system of the Colony was still undergoing revision, and grants were now

being made on the basis of the later Home system.

The total rainfall for the year was 93.65 inches. The average for the last ten years was 77.86. The average monthly temperature was 71.5 deg. F.

The Colony spent \$37,965.58 on the Volunteers.

The report ends with the following general observations:

Sir Henry Blake, K.C.M.G., left the Colony for Ceylon on the 21st November, and I administered the Government from that date until the end of the year. Major-General Sir William Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., who has commanded the troops for the last five years, and who on two occasions (1900 and 1902) administered the Government of the Colony, relinquished his command in September, and was succeeded by Major-General Villiers Hatton, C.B.

The figures already given at the beginning of this Report are evidence of the continued prosperity of this port. The fluctuations of the silver market and the partial commercial depression arising from the prospect of political disturbances in the Far East have with other causes contributed to prevent the past year from being marked by special buoyancy of trade or steadiness in the stock market; but there is nothing to indicate that the trade interests and the wealth of this Colony have ceased to expand. But if the port is to preserve its predominant position as a great emporium for shipping, there are many problems which demand early consideration and timely action, such as the increase of the accommodation in the harbour for ocean-going steamers, the provision of more space for the housing of an ever-increasing population, and the further development of the trade of the West River and its tributaries by the opening of new ports. Over-shadowing all these questions, however, is the pressing necessity for the speedy construction of the railway between Hongkong and Canton, for which a concession was granted to a British syndicate some years ago, by the Chinese Government. The development of railway enterprise in other parts of China has, in the opinion of the Government and the entire commercial community, rendered it of paramount importance to the prosperity of Hongkong that this Colony should be connected by railway with the capital of the Kwangtung Province, which is to be connected by a trunk line with the Yangtse Valley.

THE COMING MAN IN CHINA.

Mr. A. R. Colquhoun, writing in the *North American* for July, suggests that the regeneration of China may be achieved by the Chinese General Yuan Shih-Kai. He says:—

The necessity of a trained army for China, with all the accompaniments of modern equipment, had long been realised by some of the foremost Chinese statesmen of the day, and by none more clearly than by the Generalissimo of the Northern Forces, Yuan Shih-Kai. This personage has accomplished the difficult task of balancing himself on two stools, being at once the favourite of the Empress Dowager and the favourite of reform. It is well known that he gained the confidence of that remarkable woman, Tzu-Hsi, by an act of treachery to the reformers; but it is also conceded by many who are in sympathy with the Reform party that, at the time of the *coup d'état*, their programme was revolutionary and unlikely to produce good results. Yuan Shih-Kai, having gained a firm footing by his action, has since that time quietly but firmly supported the less visionary reforms, and at the present time has achieved a unique position in China. He is regarded by his countrymen as their one hope in the future, and Europeans who know him speak in the highest terms of his character and capacity. His chief efforts have been bent to the training and equipment of an army in Northern China; for one of his maxims is, that policy without force is useless.

It is needless to say that Japan plays a great part in the considerations of this Chinese statesman. It must be remembered that, unlike Li Hung-Chang, he has resisted the influence of Russia, while to Germany he has been a thorn in the side (in Chihli and Shantung), resisting her attempts at encroachment, barring her way

to concessions, and generally making himself as unpleasant as possible. Nevertheless, while making every use of Japanese methods in drilling and equipping his men, he is not, as is sometimes represented, a Japanese tool. His motto is "China for the Chinese." He expresses vigorously the belief that, whichever party wins in the present struggle, China will not be a gainer, unless—and we can imagine that his mental reservation on this subject would be "unless China can bring forward a policy backed by force." The lesson taught by Russia in Manchuria, by Germany in Shantung, and by the Allied Armies as they marched to Peking, has sunk into the hearts of the Chinese, to whom any less forcible lesson would have been useless.

If Yuan Shih-Kai fulfils the promise he has given—he is only forty-five years old—he may prove the leader for whom China has waited so long.

A SHANGHAI ADMIRALTY COURT.

The Merchant Service Guild have recently interested themselves in the case of the collision between the Imperial Chinese Government cruiser *Kiang Tai* v. the *Empress of India*, belonging to the Canadian Pacific Line, the latter vessel being held alone to blame by His Britannic Majesty's Supreme Court of the Admiralty held at Shanghai. The Guild in communicating with the Foreign Office stated that they did not wish to enter into the merits or demerits of this particular case, but they strongly questioned the appointment of the assessors who were appointed to advise the Chief Justice, Sir Hiram S. Wilkinson. These assessors, it appears, were Captain C. H. B. Moore, R.N., of H.M.S. *Sirius*, and the other the navigating-lieutenant of the same vessel, Lieut. A. E. House, R.N. As one side of the case concerned a merchant vessel, the Guild felt that an assessor with experience in the merchant service was essential, but apart from this fact they thought it extremely undesirable that whilst one assessor was a captain of one of His Majesty's ships the other should be a subordinate officer of the same vessel. Without questioning the good faith or capabilities of either assessor, the Guild held that the appointment of a subordinate officer was calculated to interfere very greatly with his independence of judgment, and undoubtedly he would not care to press his opinions against those of his superior officer. The Guild referred to the procedure at Courts of Inquiry, and at Admiralty actions in this country, and in response to their representations the Marquis of Lansdowne has caused a despatch to be addressed to the Chief Justice at Shanghai, requesting that in cases where a merchant ship is concerned one of the assessors may, if possible, be a man having experience in the merchant service.

"YELLOW PERIL" IN NEW GUISE.

The *Shanghai Mercury* describes the scares published in connection with the "Orchardists" as our old friend the "Yellow Peril" in a new dress. "People have seen that the attempt to raise this particular bogey was too barefaced altogether. Even Frenchmen, who as the allies of Russia would do and say a good deal for their friend, could only smile when the Tsar's money was squandered in the advertisement of the Kaiser's nightmare. Had it not been so highly fathered on the Continent, the Yellow Bogey would have been driven out of Europe with shouts of laughter. But less majestic forbids. What more natural that we should find strong efforts on its behalf to ensure a new footing in China from whence the argument, "I told you so," may be triumphantly telegraphed throughout the length and breadth of the world? Secret societies are as common in China as blackberries in an English lane. The natives take to them as ducks to water. Often and often their action has done harm to China, but perhaps as frequently it has done good. If their action has been frankly anti-foreign, as we know it has at times, there is nothing much to wonder at in that. It has ever been so in times of transition, and as every foreigner knows, missionaries, who, by openly assuming official power and interfering with native legal procedure, have

incensed whole districts, are largely to blame for it. But it is one thing to denounce outbreaks against Christianity, and quite another to aid in convincing Europe that there is a Yellow Peril after all, and that when the war is over the combined nations must if need be step in to save Russia from the consequences of her misdeeds on the plea forsooth that her discomfiture would be a European catastrophe! That is a line of argument into which we hoped to see no British paper inveigled. What we think the natural, though not-to-be-encouraged explanation of some of the recent publications is the well-known jealousy felt by some of our missionary bodies at the spread of Japanese influence amongst the rising generation of natives. This we say is natural enough. Our missions sent out men who are heart and soul in their work. Now the majority of Japanese in China are not Christians and never will be. Yet, by means of their knowledge and success, they have already gained a firm foothold in Chinese esteem, perhaps because their influence is not spiritualistic in any sense. If the missionary were to characterise it in friendly fashion he would probably call it Agnosticism. Were he unfriendly, it would be heathenism pure and simple. It is quite possible that some of the antagonism referred to in mission reports is due to this spirit of resentment against those who may be looked upon as interlopers.

CURRENCY REFORM IN CHINA.

Professor J. W. Jenks left Shanghai for the United States in the *Mongolia*, and we are glad to know that he leaves these shores with the satisfactory conviction that his mission has not been altogether in vain. He has planted, it is for others to water, and the increase will come. Thoroughly conversant as he is with his subject on every side, a clear and cogent writer, a very able speaker, and a man of winning personality, he was the best choice that the United States Government could possibly have made when the Chinese asked for a Commissioner to advise them how they might best obviate the loss which the continuing depreciation of silver was causing them. His plan, as is generally known, is the adoption of the gold standard without a gold currency, to put it as concisely as possible, and he has found the statesmen of Peking, as well as the high provincial officials, with whom he has discussed the question in all its bearings, eager to listen to him, to understand, and to adopt in due time his suggestions. Many foreigners too, who were at first indisposed to believe that the adoption of the gold standard by China was anything but an impossible dream, have been convinced by his arguments; and there is good reason, if nothing untoward happens, to believe that something like the reform which has been so unexpectedly and promptly successful in the Philippines will be adopted by China before very long. Thus China will come into line with India, the Straits, the Philippines, and Japan, to the permanent advantage of all who do business with gold standard countries. And mainly to the suave, unassuming, but thoroughly earnest professor of Cornell University, with his unexcelled mastery of facts and figures, this great and beneficial reform will be due. And there will be a general hope that circumstances will enable him to return to China and give his advice and assistance to those who will be charged with putting his recommendations in action.—*N.C. Daily News*.

CHINESE METHODS.

A pretty example of Chinese administrative methods is narrated with naivete in the *Chung Ngai San Po*. It knocks into a cocked-hat all the foreign idealist's notions of the moral effect of centuries of Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, and all the other isms that are supposed to make John Chinaman such a noble boy. Confucius is supposed to have advised his worshipping countrymen never to do to each other what they wouldn't like anybody to do to them. If the doings of Aw Fung-shi, Governor of Kwangsi, and Viceroy Shum are criteria of what all the others are doing, the rule of official conduct seems to be: Do to the other what he is likely to do to you, and do it first.

Governor Aw sent a memorial to the Throne, to the effect that Aw was a poor, insignificant governor, unworthy to lick the steps of the Imperial washhouse at Peking, but that he felt it his painful duty to report that Shum was a worthless person who neglected his duty, who frequently drank wine in company with his subordinates, and who was guilty of the despicable habit of flattening the Throne with false reports.

Back from Peking, straight to the unhappy Shum, came the awful Imperial signet.

"Thus and thus says our faithful slave Aw. What hast thou to say to the several indictments? Answer, on thy head." (Or words to that effect.)

Shum took a little more wine, and drank confusion to that racial Aw. Then he replied, to the effect that the Heaven-born would graciously hearken to his unworthy, but extremely truthful replies. He (Shum) had always exerted himself to the utmost to perform all his duties. He had on many occasions gone forth in the rain to pray for the Throne, and he trusted that the Throne would continue to retain its convictions of his probity and honour. He had never sent a false report. All were perfectly true, down to the very last wiggle of the brush, and the Throne must not "entertain a shadow of a doubt." That person Aw was within a few miles of a fact when he spoke of wine-drinking. He (Shum) did invite his subordinates to a dinner once. (He must have smiled as he wrote this.) That was on the Emperor's birthday, and all drank to the health of the Throne, but kept quite sober. The fact was this person Aw had sent such a (saving your Presence) lying report because he expected the unworthy writer of these presents to report him for cowardice and negligence. Governor Aw had gathered all the soldiers he could get around the city of Kweilin for his own protection against the rebels. Other cities, surrounded by rebels, he had left to shift for themselves. He was an arrant coward, whereas the writer (Shum) was pursuing those rebels.

It answered. Peking replied: Worthy Shum. Do thy duty as usual, and root out the rebels. Take no notice of what Aw says. We will attend to him.

Governor Aw, chuckling in the midst of his well defended premises at Kweilin, because he had got ahead of that interfering Viceroy, was shocked when he received an Imperial chit scolding him for presuming to villify a better man. He was ordered to send his soldiers against the rebels and (horrible punishment!) to go with them.

This was too much. Slipping a dirk into his sleeve, in case he should have to anticipate the thunderbolt, he urgently despatched representations to the Throne that Kweilin, being the capital, was more important than the rest of the province, and it would be very unwise to send the soldiers away. Kwangsi was overrun with rebels, and he, as Governor, had to be extremely careful. Surely the Throne had not thought of the terrible risks of braving these rebels? Besides, if the soldiers went, they would most probably be defeated. The most they could hope for would be one or two chance victories.

Here the story ends for the time being. There seems to be an opening for another General Gordon in Kwangsi.

SETTLEMENT OF THE SHIHEN ANTI-CATHOLIC TROUBLES.

The following settlement has been made by the French authority with the Chinese.

- 1.—The culprits who murdered the Catholic priests and converts shall be severely punished.
- 2.—The local officials responsible shall be cashiered and ordered to leave their positions.
- 3.—A hospital shall be established to commemorate the incident at the expense of the Chinese Government.
- 4.—Respectful service and burial of the murdered priests shall be undertaken by the Chinese authorities.
- 5.—The families of the four native converts who had been murdered shall be given indemnities, and indemnities also shall be paid to the families of the Catholic priests.—*Universal Gazette*.

"GNEISENAU" CAPTAIN FINED.

For entering the harbour with arms on board, without reporting same to the Harbour Master, Captain H. Bleeker of the N. D. L. steamer *Gneisenau* was fined \$25. The offence occurred on the 16th August last, and was discovered by the manifest supplied to a clerk of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company.

Detective Inspector Grant deposed that, acting on instructions from the Captain Superintendent, he visited the Kowloon Godowns, where he found seventeen cases of arms, plainly labelled outside in English. He satisfied himself as to the nature of the contents, and then applied for the summons against the *Gneisenau's* captain. A boarding officer from the Harbour Master's office had reported the omission to the police.

Captain Bleeker admitted the facts, and said he supposed the purser had had so much to do that he had not properly inspected the manifest. The purser was not present, but (Mr Kemp having considerably offered an adjournment) he did not think it worth while calling him.

Mr Kemp said that while there did not appear to have been in the present instance any deliberate evasion of the harbour rules, such offences were very serious. The maximum penalty was a fine of \$200. Justice would be met in this case by a fine of \$25.

NATIVE FIGHTING NEAR SHANGHAI.

Village and clan fights, common enough in the south and north, are in the immediate vicinity of Shanghai of quite rare occurrence, owing to the general timidity and peace-loving nature of the country people belonging to the prefectures of Sungkiang and Soochow, in this province. Hence people here were greatly surprised to hear that on Monday (5th) there was a regular battle royal, accompanied by loss of life, between the members of two villages situated on the borders of the neighboring districts of Pa shan (Wusung) and Chiating (Kahding). There were over two hundred contestants on each side of the rustic rudies, who were led by the members of the chief families of the respective villages. The scene of the battle was on neutral ground, namely, within the borders of the town of Nanhaiang (Naziang), about a dozen or fifteen miles north of Shanghai. The cause of the fight was concerning the right of gathering water-lily roots in the Tangho canal, rights claimed by one village and denied by the other. Nearly twenty villagers were badly injured by blows from iron rakes, hoes, scythes and clubs, while three were killed. A native guard-boat, containing a crew of a dozen men, was manifestly too weak to stop the fight, which continued until the side that had lost most men in wounded gave ground. It is stated that if the chieftain of Chiating (Kahding) proves himself too weak to overawe the villagers, that rowdies, gamblers and desperadoes, who abound in that vicinity, will take advantage of the opportunity thus given to plunder and spread the disturbance to neighbouring towns.—*N.C. Daily News*.

NEUTRAL GOODS ON JAPANESE SHIPS.

The *Law Journal* states that the destruction by the Russian ships of their Japanese prizes may give rise to a somewhat difficult question if any of them should have neutral property on board. The Declaration of Paris provides that neutral goods, other than contraband, are not liable to capture under the enemy's flag. Does it follow that when a captured enemy's ship carries neutral cargo it would be a violation of the obligation imposed on the States adhering to the Declaration to sink the ship when it is impracticable to send her into port, and therefore that the only alternative is to release her? We think not. Article III. of the Declaration of Paris was intended to make it clear that a belligerent has in general no right to confiscate neutral property. It was not intended to prevent the exercise against an enemy of a recognised belligerent right. Is the owner

of the neutral goods, then, entitled to compensation if his property has been destroyed together with the ship? The correct answer is probably that when he shipped his property on a vessel sailing under a belligerent flag he knew that he incurred the risk of its being destroyed under certain circumstances together with the ship, and therefore that he must be deemed to have taken the risk of such a loss upon himself. This was the position taken up by the French Prize Court when a claim for compensation was made by the neutral owners of the cargoes of two German ships which, during the war of 1870, were sunk by their captors.

IMPORTANT JAPAN-COREA AGREEMENT.

Regarding the appointment of foreign financial and diplomatic advisors to the Korean Court, negotiations took place between the Japanese Envoy in Seoul and the Korean Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Finance on the 19th inst., when the following terms were agreed upon and signed:—

1.—The Korean Government shall engage a Japanese suggested by the Japanese Government as financial advisor, and all financial affairs shall be executed after inquiring his view.

2.—The Korean Government shall employ a foreigner recommended by the Japanese Government as a diplomatic advisor, whose view shall be consulted in all diplomatic affairs.

The Japanese financial advisor referred to in the above agreement is Mr. T. Megata, Director of the Taxation Bureau, who was only recently nominated a member of the Upper House. He has been long in the service of the Tokyo Ministers of Finance, and is an excellent authority. Mr. Stevens, councillor to the Japanese Legation in Washington, is to be the diplomatic advisor. He has been in the Japanese service for about twenty years and is quite Japanese.

IMPUDENT HOUSE BOYS.

In the Summary Court recently Mr. Justice Sercombe Smith heard a case in which two Chinese boys and a cook sued a European lady for a month's wages. No. 1 boy claimed \$17 and the others less than \$10 each. The defendant admitted that the wages were due, though not in full. With regard to No. 1 boy, he claimed \$15 and \$2 which he alleged he had lent to his mistress. Defendant said he left on the 29th ult., two days before his term was up. On the day previous he would not do his work, and she gave him \$1 cumsha to induce him to go about his duties. Even then he did not do his work. On the morning of the 29th he was saucy and again neglected his work. She afterwards went into his quarters, paid him his wages, and told him to go, whereupon he flung the money back at her. He and the other two began to threaten her, and she ran down to the backyard. No. 1 boy pinched her arms until they were black and blue, while the others pulled her about by the skirts.

His Lordship said she should have summoned them at the Police Court.

Defendant stated that she had called in a sergeant of police, but she had not summoned them as she did not want her name to appear in the papers.

His Lordship gave judgment for \$12 without costs.

When the boy heard the judgment he muttered something in Chinese to the effect that defendant should pay the money due him.

His Lordship called him back and told him he had better be careful what he said there, or he would find himself in gaol. He might be insolent to his mistress, but if he was insolent in that Court it would be at his own risk.

The two other servants got judgment without costs.

At the conclusion of the case his Lordship strongly advised defendant to take out summonses against all three plaintiffs and get them punished.

Summonses were accordingly taken out.

SNAKES IN HONGKONG.

A big snake has just been killed in the Tytam district. It measured no less than 18 feet long and was correspondingly thick in girth, lending colour to the stories of old days about the huge reptiles to be found on the island of Hongkong; borne out though these be to this incredulous age by the presence in the Museum of two huge local specimens, one measuring 18 feet and the other 14 feet. The Tytam snake was found peculiarly. It apparently had discovered the track of a deer that daily went down to the pool of a stream to drink, and had caught and crushed the animal to death. Then it began to devour its victim. But it had proved incapable of completing its gigantic banquet, and, lying down torpid by the side of its half-finished meal, was found asleep by some hillside people and despatched. Unfortunately the head was smashed to such an extent as to make its carcass practically valueless for museum purposes. On the hills about Pokfulam the brown snake and the venomous flat-headed green are still to be found in great quantities, while at Stanley those species abound in legion and cobras are also frequently seen. The snake killed at Tytam is the largest which has been killed for some years, but its death has served to revive many recollections amongst old inhabitants about reptilian monsters encountered on the island and sometimes successfully shot or otherwise put out of existence. One of these stories is that about an old Hongkong worthy (now at home) whose name shall be "Chips." He was a Scotsman and had been at the Scots Lodge. He had a dark, white-surfaced road to traverse on his way home. But the story is best told in the words of a well-known Police Inspector (now also at home). "I was sitting in the station," he said, "after midnight, when in bursts 'Chips' with a face as white as a sheet. 'What's the matter, man?' I cried. Thereupon 'Chips' began a tangled yarn of how he had been walking along the road when he came to a fallen tree lying across it. He touched it with his stick and found to his horror it was a huge snake. 'And did it move?' I asked him. 'Aye, an' I moved too,' said 'Chips.' It is alleged that he 'moved' some of the wine of his country, too, before he left the station."

THE WINNING NUMBER.

In spite of the law, lottery tickets meet a ready sale in Hongkong. The following from the *Shanghai Mercury* is therefore of local interest.

Lottery tickets being frowned upon by the City Fathers, those who still persist in buying them are naturally looked upon as fair game by the dealers, and many are the ways adopted by the surreptitious vendors to profit by the favours of Dame Fortune. A recent "find" among the belongings of a dealer whose boxes were searched for a different reason, may save some loss to foreign purchasers. This consisted of a large lot of English numbers, digits, all carefully cut. The explanation finally vouched concerning these was that when the dealer had sold a lucky ticket to a foreigner, he "faked" his list of prizes, by pasting another number carefully over the top of the prize won; say \$50 was won, a "3" placed skilfully over the "5" increased the seller's profit by \$2. The possibilities of the method are easily seen. Those who will encourage such immoral institutions should beware.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The yachting season of the Royal Hongkong Yacht Club commences about the 1st November though a ladies' race may be held at the end of October. A general meeting of members will be called in a few days for business, and to hear all about the amalgamation of the Yacht Club with the Boat Club. There are no new yachts. *Vernon*, the winner of last year's championship, Commodore Robinson's yacht, now belongs to Mr. Tooker; while *Dione* is solely owned by Mr. F. H. May.

Major Pratt, R.A., owner of *Doreen*, leaves the Colony to-day to take up a position at Woolwich.

CRICKET LEAGUE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Hongkong Cricket League held their annual meeting at the offices of the Hongkong Land Investment Co. on the 13th inst. Mr. T. Sercombe Smith presided, others present being Messrs. W. Braidwood, P. W. Goldring (H.K.C.C.), B. K. Mehta (Parsee C.C.), Sergt. Skinner (A.O.D.), Sapper D. S. Man (R.E.), Messrs. L. E. Brett (Civil Service C.C.), A. O. Brawn (Craigengower C.C.), and A. E. Asger (hon. secretary and treasurer). League teams not represented were H.M.S. *Tamar* and the R.A.M.C.

The SECRETARY read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN proposed that the report and accounts, as presented, be adopted. Mr. GOLDRING seconded; and it was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN said that they were presented with a difficulty. Were they to elect a president, vice-president, hon. secretary and treasurer at that meeting, or wait till each club in the League elected a representative?

Mr. BRAIDWOOD took it that all the teams had had their meetings. The only question was whether other teams joining would not like to have a voice in the League.

Mr. GOLDRING said that the Hongkong Cricket Club had not yet held its annual general meeting.

The CHAIRMAN, under the circumstances, all the teams in the League being represented, proposed that they elect the officers; and it was agreed to.

Mr. GOLDRING proposed, Mr. BRAIDWOOD seconded, and it was agreed that Mr. T. Sercombe Smith be elected president.

Mr. SERCOMBE SMITH said he would be very pleased to accept their nomination (Applause).

Mr. BRETT proposed, Mr. BRAUN seconded, and it was carried that Mr. Braidwood be elected vice-president.

Mr. BRAIDWOOD said he would be very pleased to do what he could.

Mr. BRETT proposed, Mr. GOLDRING seconded, and it was agreed that Mr. A. E. Asger be asked to carry on the duties of hon. secretary and treasurer for another year.

The CHAIRMAN: I think we ought to express our thanks to Mr. Asger for his work during the first and hardest season.

The CHAIRMAN recommended that a sub-committee, consisting of Mr. Brawn, Sergt. Skinner and Mr. Asger, be elected to draw up a set of rules and bye-laws for the League; and submit them for approval.

Mr. GOLDRING seconded, and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. BRAIDWOOD asked if any steps should be taken to invite others to join the Club.

Mr. BRETT thought that the entrance fee should be raised to \$10. Their present funds were not sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN was opposed to raising the entrance fee while the League was in its infancy. He thought it would be well to approach other teams.

Teams mentioned as likely to join were the Hongkong Police, the Torpedo Depot, and the Royal Artillery.

Mr. MANN said he thought the R.A., for one, were looking like business.

The CHAIRMAN said he understood that Mr. E. R. Hallifax was anxious to get a police team together.

It was finally decided that any teams wanting to come into the League must send in their names to Mr. A. E. Asger, the secretary, on or before 30th September.

Mr. GOLDRING said that the present funds were not sufficient if they were to give an annual presentation of eleven gold medals.

The CHAIRMAN suggested silver ones.

Mr. BRETT mentioned that the League teams were not invited to the presentation of the Shield. The Cricket Club did not send an invitation, and some of them were afraid of trespassing.

The CHAIRMAN: There was nothing to fear.

Mr. BRAIDWOOD: What about umpires?

Mr. ASGER said that on one or two occasions one of the team had to get out and umpire.

Mr. GOLDBRING: The only thing to do is to grin and bear it.

Mr. BRETT: I do not think that at Hongkong you will get anyone to act as umpire.

The CHAIRMAN said it was very difficult in the Hongkong Cricket Club to get umpires. In the old days they had a very satisfactory sergeant, who was paid for his services. Whenever they could they got someone to act as umpire for them.

Mr. GOLDBRING said they must leave it as it was. It was rather unsatisfactory, but what could be done?

The CHAIRMAN closed the meeting; whereupon Mr. ASGER proposed a vote of thanks to their president, Mr. T. Sercombe Smith (Applause).

TRADE ITEMS.

Kinchou has been reopened to trade.

The Chamber of Mines Importation Agency (Ltd.) has been formed in the Transvaal to import Chinese. The capital is £420,906.

Mr. Clifford Wilkinson is turning his Tansan business into a company with a capital of half-a-million yen.

It is reported that flour exported from America to Japan will have to pay a war duty of ten cents per bag.

Hsüchien is anxiously awaiting the glass works which have been promised by the agents to the company promoted by the Nanking Viceroy and certain Shanghaiandors.

The British Vice-Consul at Seoul reports that Canadian lumber might find a market in Corea, for it is cheaper to import lumber from America than to bring it down from Northern Corea.

A visit to the glass works at Kowloon is interesting. One can see the manufacture of lamp-shades, and lamp-glasses, etc., in their every stage. Chinese labour, only, is employed. Women do some of the grinding work and packing.

A Tokyo telegram dated 8th September says:—The Japanese Government has decided to open a Consulate at Changsha, a newly opened port in Hunan, and all the preparations to open the consulate are ready, and the consulate will be treated as a branch of the consulate at Hankow.—*Universal Gazette*.

H.M. Consul at Shimonoseki reports that a branch line from Usa on the Kiushiu Railway to Oita City, distance 40 miles, has been officially sanctioned, also a short line of 1½ miles from Kawasaki station, on the same company's line, to the coal mining district of Taite in Fukuoka Prefecture.

H.M. Consul at Shimonoseki reports that the city council of that place invited tenders in November last for 2,000 tons of 14-inch iron pipes, and the tender of the Taneguchi ironworks, in Saga Prefecture, at the price of £13,340, was accepted. Eight firms tendered, including two American, one British and one Belgian.

The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has sent us a report of coal shipments from five Japanese ports in 1902, 1903, and the first half of the current year. In 1902 it was 5,271,114 tons; in 1903 5,895,392 tons; and in the last six months the total reached 3,108,107 tons, of which the M.B.K.'s share was 1,273,543 tons.

Professor Jenks is said to have gone away quite satisfied that his work was not in vain, and that China really means to take up the scheme of currency reform. There are those who believe, however, that China will, with the information and pointers given them by Professor Jenks, formulate some kind of financial system herself.

Here is a queer advertisement from the *San Francisco Examiner*:—"Shantung and Shanghai Silk:—Made on the hand looms in Japan, and dyed in Lyons, France; stylish fabrics, 24 to 42 inches, yard 75c to \$1.35." We had not understood before that Shantung and Shanghai were in Japan.

Mr. John Hirsbrunner has purchased from the Taku Tug and Lighter Co. the vacant lot of land to the north of the Astor House Hotel at Tientsin. The price paid was something like Tls. 12,000 per mow, the highest figure, the *P. & T. Times* believes, paid for land in Tientsin. They hope to see this enterprising firm shortly commence building business premises on this valuable site.

A list of firms in correspondence with the Harbour Master, as representing the Commercial Intelligence Department of the Board of Trade, as to prospective openings in the Colony for trade, is published in the Hongkong Government Gazette. The Harbour Master will give further information to such persons as may apply to him.

The Tin Hing Co. is a large engineering establishment worked entirely by Chinese. Chinese shipbuilding at Hungthom is also progressing. At the Kwong Tak Cheong Yard, which adjoins that of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., a river-steamer (to be launched soon-day), two cargo-boats, and two steam-launches are being built; the river-steamer *Hai Nam* is undergoing repairs; and there are several other small jobs.

The Chinese Telegraph Administration are constructing a telegraph line between Shanghai and Sunghong, and the officials have been instructed to properly protect it. The districts around Shanghai are, says the *P. & T. Times*, surpassingly ignorant compared with those in the north, when it is remembered how much longer they have been familiar with western institutions.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha's 38th report for the first six months of the year describes it as an exceptional half year, so many of the Company's steamers being under Government charter. The Company proposes to increase its capital to eleven million yen. The gross profits for the half year amounted to Y. 1,027,772, and a dividend at the rate of ten per cent. per annum was paid.

The news from the north is that the long-sought Kuling Extension has at last been secured. The extension includes the north and south ends of the present valley, and a five years' option on the valley to the west has been secured. The lots are 125 feet by 250 feet, and they are purchasable from the Chinese Government at \$200 (Mex.) per lot, to be resold to the public at \$250 per lot. The profits are to be used for the improvement of the estate.

The British Consular report on the trade of Oregon, Washington, and Idaho, states that the development of the flour trade has been very rapid, and nearly all was sent to Asiatic ports. Appearances would indicate that before many years have passed the entire surplus wheat of the Pacific Coast will be shipped to Asiatic ports in the form of flour. The average shipments of the last five years were 2,099,068 barrels, coastwise and foreign, from this district.

Telegraphing Tokyo on the 7th instant, the *N. C. Daily News* correspondent says: The official estimates of the rice crop forecast an extraordinary harvest exceeding fifty million *koku* (250,000,000 bushels), twenty per cent. above the average, and breaking the record in the memory of the oldest inhabitant. There will be no necessity to import rice, thus making the balance of trade favourable. The yields of barley, tea, and cocoons are also excellent.

The British Consular report on the trade of Trieste for 1903 notes that a meeting has been held in Vienna by Austrian manufacturers of machinery, waggons, and locomotives. A proposal to open Austrian technical offices in Far Eastern Asia has been presented. The object of such offices will be to procure orders for Austrian industrialists from private persons as well as from governments. It is proposed to open one of these offices in Japan and a second at Tientsin.

The average amount of bank-notes in circulation, and specie in reserve at Hongkong during August were:—

	Average	Reserve
Chartered Bank...	\$ 3,405,479	\$2,200,000
H. K. & S. Bank...	\$11,213,911	\$7,000,000
National Bank...	\$ 397,039	\$ 150,000
Total...	\$15,016,429	\$9,350,000

The steamer *Unison*, which cleared from Shanghai on the 11th ult. with a cargo of provisions for Newchwang, was destined for Port Arthur, in sight of which port she was wrecked. Her captain, the story goes, was promised 5,000 roubles and a Russian decoration if he succeeded in making Port Arthur, and the same sum was to be divided among the crew. She was dispatched from Shanghai by a blockade-running syndicate there which is composed of at least four nationalities, one belonging to a belligerent and three to neutral Powers.

The British Vice-Consul at Hakodate reports that the item of fish manure imported into that port last year shows a substantial increase of some £50,000 in value and 8,000 tons in quantity. This article is imported exclusively from Saghalien, where its preparation affords employment to many thousands of Japanese fishermen.

It is stated that a number of Russians in Shanghai are just now buying all the large sea-going junks they can secure, and are paying big prices for the vessels. The junks are being purchased ostensibly to ship goods to Tsingtau and Weihaiwei. A good many vessels have been obtained so far, but a difficulty is being experienced in getting crews to man the craft, as when it is learned that the junks are bound for the north the Chinese refuse to proceed in them. It is believed that the vessels are really intended to be employed as blockade runners, the destination of Tsingtau or Weihaiwei being used as a blind, the real object being to take advantage of rainy or foggy weather to reach Port Arthur.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

The death of Mr. T. C. Bogaardt, formerly of Singapore, is announced in Home papers. He joined the firm of William Mansfield and Co., Singapore, in 1871, and remained till he became a partner in 1877, retiring about nine or ten years ago, though he remained for a few years in Singapore as managing director of the Straits Steamship Company, of which he was practically the founder. He was a member of Council during the latter years of his stay in Singapore, and was also a director of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company (Limited). During the years 1877 or 1878 till 1883 he represented the firm of Mansfield and Co. in Penang. He died at Amsterdam on July 29.

The case of Boyd v. The American China Development Company, at the U.S. Consular Court at Shanghai, is attracting much attention in the northern port. At the last hearing, W. P. Boyd, plaintiff, swore, said that he had been in Shanghai a little over two years. Before coming here he was United States Shipping Commissioner at Honolulu. Prior to that he was a United States Consular clerk for 15 years. The terms of the contract with the defendants were for five years, at a salary of \$500 gold per month. He had been dismissed, without any fault being found, with 37 months of the agreement yet to run, so that he claimed \$18,500 gold. He had made demands for the money and was refused. He had endeavoured to find suitable employment, but had failed to do so.—Judgment (on the 8th instant) was reserved.

The foreign settlement at Chinan is to be established at Wu-li-kou, outside the east gate. The area is to be six li or two miles from east to west and four li from north to south. A Public Works Department has been opened in connection with the Bureau of Agriculture, Commerce and Art, to have charge of the necessary lands etc., for the use of foreign and Chinese merchants and others who wish to establish themselves at this trading centre, which will soon become one of the leading commercial ports in Shantung. Taotai Ho Chih-hisao is the director of the department above mentioned, and it is reported that the Governor has obtained permission from the Government to spend Tls. 300,000 to meet the initial expenses in connection with the opening of the port, which is voluntarily opened.—*Peking Times*.

An Ichang letter states that Viceroy Chang Chih-tung has appointed Mr. Wang, for many years compradore of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire at Hankow, and Agent for that firm in Ichang, to be Assistant Director of the Ichang Bureau of Foreign Affairs. Mr. Wang is a deputy sub-prefect by rank, and one of the returned American students, which speaks for itself as far as knowledge of English and foreign matters is concerned. The fact that there have been recently several anti-Catholic riots in that part of Hupeh province, namely, Ichang and Shihnan prefectures, and a lamentable dearth of foreign-educated officials in the Hukuang provinces, were probably the main reasons which prompted Viceroy Chang Chih-tung in selecting Mr. Wang for his present post; and a very good and opportune appointment it is. We may mention, en passant, that the present popular and able Taotai of Hankow, His Honour Liang Tun-yen (for many years confidential secretary of the Viceroy), is also a returned American student and an ex-Yale University man.—*N. C. Daily News*.

It was reported by one of the passengers to Shanghai from Hankow by the *Tuckwo* on the 4th instant, that in consequence of the American China Development Company having passed into Belgian hands, the whole American staff on the north, or Hankow end of the Hankow-Canton railway, had been recalled.

There is no sinister meaning of any kind in the closing of the Shanghai branch of the Inspectorate-General of Customs; rather, the *Shanghai Daily News* assures us, it is a step that has been foreseen for some time. It will be remembered that it was during the siege of the Legations at Peking, when all communication between the Inspector-General of Customs, Sir Robert Hart, Bart., and the rest of the world was cut off, that the pressing business of his office was undertaken at Shanghai, the Viceroy at Nanking, H.E. Liu Kun-yi, appointing Mr. F. E. Taylor, a Commissioner and Statistical Secretary, to the post of Acting Inspector-General. As the Customs buildings, and the whole plant, so to speak, of the Inspectorate-General at Peking, were destroyed in the siege, it became necessary to have a temporary establishment where the work of the office could be carried on, and for this purpose the Deputy Inspector-General, Sir Robert E. Bredon, was sent down to Shanghai after the siege was raised. But when the Customs establishment at Peking was rebuilt, and the organisation of Sir Robert Hart's bureaux completed, and a diminution of the political work that had been forced upon him by the confusion in Peking enabled him to take again into his own hands the full direction of the great Service of which he may fairly be termed the creator, the inconvenience of having two Inspectorates-General was obvious, and the closing of the Shanghai branch, which was always intended, is the natural sequel. This is all the foundation there is for the sensational stories that have been current.

The shareholders in S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd., are summoned to an extraordinary general meeting to consider the proposal to sell the whole of their undertaking, lock, stock, and barrel, to a London company which is to be formed to take it over and carry it on. It is proposed that the shareholders shall receive for each share of Tls. 100 in the present company the sum of £12 10s., equal at 2s. 6d. exchange to Tls. 100, and shares in the new company to the value of £16 or Tls. 128. This is on the face of it a very favourable sale. Original shareholders in S. C. Farnham & Co., Ltd., will thus receive the equivalent of Tls. 228 for their outlay of Tls. 33.33; those in Boyd & Co., Ltd., will receive this sum for their Tls. 50; and those in the Shanghai E. S. & Dock Co., Ltd., the third of the companies which were amalgamated in the present company, for their Tls. 100. What is to be the total capital of the London company is not stated; but the amount required to purchase the existing company, in cash and shares, amounts to £1,573,200. A large sum will also be required for working capital, and the very considerable extension of plant and building which is understood to be contemplated by the London company. A great revival of business is expected at Shanghai when the war is over; and it is suggested that the new company will install plant for the manufacture of rails and railway material, engines and machinery of all kinds, and will also undertake shipbuilding on a large scale. There is an undoubted opening in China for such works as it is supposed to be the intention of the company to inaugurate. The great question for the present shareholders in S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd., is the amount at which the capital of the London company is to be fixed, as on this depends the value of the £16 that they are to receive in shares. It would be well for them, before the meeting at which they are to be asked to accept the proposal now made, to study what happened to the original concessionaires of the Hongkong Low-Level Tramways. If Shanghai is to become the Belfast of China it will doubtless be a good thing for the prosperity of the port as a whole, and it will interest a great public company at Home in the conservancy of the Huangpu; but the experience of having big industries in the East managed by a board of directors in London has not been uniformly favourable.—*N.C. Daily News*.

According to a Peking telegram in a northern contemporary the Ministers for England and America are protesting against Viceroy Wei's remarkable regulations for the opening of Changsha, to which we recently drew attention in our leader columns.

The Viceroy of the Liang-Kiang provinces has given permission to some wealthy native gentlemen at Canton to monopolise the sale of Government salt in Kwang-tung on condition that the promoters find Tls. 5,000,000 as capital for purchasing salt from the salt manufacturer. The monopoly is granted for ten years from the date of signature of the agreement, and out of the profit six parts must be given the Government and the remainder to the promoters and shareholders. The head office is to be at Canton, and the Viceroy is to appoint a responsible officer to look after the interests of the Government.—*Peking Gazette*.

The incorporation in New York of the Southern Cotton Corporation, with a share capital of \$20,000,000, is "all the talk" in circles connected with the industry on both sides of the Atlantic, several owners of mills in Great Britain being said to be interested in the undertaking. The intention is to establish throughout the whole of the South warehouses wherein farmers may, in times of excessive production, store their cotton, and secure for it negotiable warehouse receipts instead of forcing it on the market, and breaking prices. The growers will, it is claimed, effect the handsome saving of \$20,000,000 per annum.

In his report on the foreign trade of Corea for the year 1903, the British Vice-Consul at Seoul states that it was a record year both for imports and exports. The value of the trade amounted to £2,827,381, of which £1,859,976 represents imports and £967,505 exports (practically all to Japan). To this must be added the gold export, amounting to £537,000, making a grand total of £3,384,387. Customs duties amounted to £146,255. The foreign trade of Corea has gone on increasing rapidly during the past few years. This continued growth, in spite of political unrest and the lamentable condition of the currency, shows the possibilities of expansion under a reformed and stable system. The soil is fertile and, properly developed, the resources would yield abundant profit. Nothing is further from the truth than that Corea is a poor country. The Nippon Yusen Kaisha and Osaka Shosen Kaisha improved their services to Korean ports during the year, putting larger steamers on the run. Japan takes practically all the gold that Corea produces for export (£556,985 worth in 1903), and in return sends a large quantity of cotton goods, matches, silk piece-goods, saké and tobacco to the Peninsula. For the development of new industries the first essential is that the currency system should be reformed and placed upon a sound basis, but the responsible Korean officials are slow to grasp elementary economic facts; advice and assistance from without would appear to be necessary before any effective legislative or monetary improvements can be instituted.

Mr. Consul Liddell, in the course of his report on the trade of the Consular district of Lyons for the year 1903, writes on the Lyons Silk market:—

The vaunted monopoly that Lyons once claimed through the skill and cleverness of her weavers has disappeared before the growth of foreign competition. Fortunately, however, the economic evolution has caused an increase in production. The cause of the decline in the culture of silkworms is of long standing. It is firstly organic, that is to say, the worms were attacked by disease which it was found most difficult to cope with. Pasteur did, however, find an antidote to this disease, and it was applied with a large measure of success in the Cevennes. Silkworm culture seemed after all likely to succeed, when in 1892 cocoons began to arrive from China and Japan which were offered at such extraordinarily low prices that the French cocoons were quite unable to compete. The centre of silk production changed from Europe to Asia, from France and Italy to China and Japan. Japan, in 1880, exported only 17,900 bales of silk; in 1900 this amount had risen to 56,190 bales, and in 1903 to 76,000 bales. The values were estimated at £2,906,876, £6,463,180 and £9,000,000 respectively. There was the same progress in the case of China.

HONGKONG.

The South African coolie emigrant steamer *Inkum* is being fitted up at the Kowloon Docks.

The new ferry *Evening Star*, being built at the Kowloon Docks, is having her engines fitted.

The abattoir at Hunghom recently contained nothing but goats. The "venison" was for the Indian troops.

Mr. John Jessiman Ewing passed his master's Board of Trade examination on the 16th inst. Capt. R. Rodger, of the *a.s. Zafro*, and the King's Harbour Master examined him.

The Indian constable who recently allowed a prisoner to escape from the waiting room at the Magistracy has been dismissed from the force.

European dwelling-houses are now in course of construction at the back of the Kowloon Dispensary and the corner of Observation and Des Voeux Roads. Kowloon as a residential quarter is still popular.

The attention of the P.W.D. is desired on the road in front of the glass works at Hunghom, where the Hongkong Land Reclamation Co.'s little railway crosses. It is in a shocking condition.

The visitors to the City Hall Library and Museum for the week ending 11th September, 1904, were 220 non-Chinese and 71 Chinese to the former, and 79 non-Chinese and 1,915 Chinese to the latter institution.

In the early hours of the 17th inst. a burglary took place at 129, Wanchai Road, occupied by Mr. W. Wolfe and Mr. J. Davenport, of the Naval Yard. The burglars gained entrance by climbing up the verandah while the occupants were asleep. They evidently robbed Mr. Davenport's house first, because they searched the clothing and left it in Mr. Wolfe's place. From Mr. Davenport's house they made off with a silver watch and gold chain and \$6 in money which they took out of a purse, leaving the purse on the verandah as being of no value. Mr. Wolfe came off better, as he lost only 25 cents, which had been left lying on the dressing-table. Neither of the occupants of the house heard anything suspicious during the night.

In the Emigration Camp at Laichikok on the 15th inst. there were some 750 coolies awaiting shipment for South Africa, and it is expected that they will sail shortly. It appears that all difficulties with regard to the despatch of coolies from Hongkong have been smoothed over. Under the British-Chinese Convention no coolies could be shipped to a British possession from China except from a Treaty port. Hongkong of course is not a Treaty port, and the Viceroy, reading the Convention literally, put objections in the way of the sending of coolies from here. Now His Excellency has been instructed from Peking that no further objections are to be taken. It is a noteworthy fact that in Hongkong the system of registration of the coolies is far more efficient and far more calculated to give every protection to them than that in vogue in Tientsin, Chefoo and other Northern ports.

It was reported on the 15th inst. that about half-past eight o'clock on the previous night some of the villagers of the small village of Wong Uk, near Laichikok emigration camp, arrested two of the coolies from the camp on a charge of stealing vegetables from a garden. The villagers were taking the alleged thieves to the public station when they met two Indian constables on patrol and handed the prisoners over to them. The whole crowd then proceeded towards the station, and had almost reached Samsuipo when they were overtaken by a crowd of coolies to the number of about one hundred from the emigration camp, who set upon the constables with bamboo poles and iron bars and rescued the two prisoners. On the alarm being given at Samsuipo the rest of the Indians rushed out and gave chase to the retreating coolies. They could not come up with the main body, however, and only succeeded in capturing two who had tailed off from the gang. Both of the Indians who were attacked were badly bruised, one of them so severely as to necessitate his removal to hospital. The two coolies who were captured as having taken part in the rescue were taken before the Magistrates and were remanded.

Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, assistant superintendent of police, left by the P. & O. s.s. *Ohwan* on nine months' leave.

The s.s. *Lothian* left last week with 500 locally recruited Chinamen for the Rand. The s.s. *Cranley* goes next.

A Chinaman in the witness box was recently ordered by Mr. Wolfe to desist fanning himself, and to learn manners. The youth was arrogant in bearing.

Mr. John Merrillees Masson passed his first class engineer's examination recently, and Mr. Alexander Thomson his second class engineer's examination. Both candidates were examined by Mr. James Macdonald.

The sum of £307,242 figures in the estimates for 1904-5 as estimated expenditure on the Hongkong dockyard extension, which will cost altogether £1,245,000. The works are to be completed in 1905-6.

The name of Augusto Carriera D'Azevedo, a member of the College of Medicine of the University of Oporto, Portugal, has been added to the register of medical and surgical practitioners qualified to practise medicine and surgery in this Colony.

The wreck of an old 'Dragon-boat,' which, no doubt, has in its day figured in many a festival at Hunghom, lies in a stagnant pool of water near the Tin Hing Engineering Co.'s works. This stagnant pool, by the way, might with advantage be filled in.

The rocks facing the head of No. 1 dock at Kowloon are ornamented with the names of several American ships, which have, at different times, been docked there. In some instances the sailors must have undergone serious risk to paint them.

Cocconut palms flourish in the sandy soil at both Hongkong and Kowloon. House owners at some places, Penang, for instance, make money by selling nuts collected from their tenants' gardens. Very often, when palms are laden with fruit at East Point, Hongkong, green cocoanuts are not procurable at the market.

H.E. the Governor has appointed the following gentlemen to be members of the board of examiners for local pilots: The Assistant Harbour Master; the Commander (n) of the Naval Yard, or the King's Harbour Master of H.M.S. *Tamar*; Mr. Thomas Philip Hall; Mr. Stephen McIsaac; and Mr. Frederick Archibald Brown.

Capt. Arbuthnot Leslie, A.D.C. to Sir Matthew Nathan, having been summoned home on urgent private affairs, Capt. Smith, R.A., has been appointed to the post at Government House. He has relinquished one "A.D.C." for another, having given up his part in the cast of *Dorothy*, in the Amateur Dramatic Club's forthcoming entertainment. Capt. Arbuthnot Leslie left in H.M.S. *Terrible*.

Many Parsees met on the 14th inst. at the Parsee Club premises. The "Jasan" ceremony of "Naoroz" (new year) was performed by the Parsee "Dastoor" (priest), Sorab Jamasjee. After the religious prayer and "Hamajor" ceremony, the crowd dispersed. King Yezdezed, the last of the Parsee Kings, came to the throne of Persia 1,274 years ago to-day. Many of the Parsees closed their business premises at noon. [Contributed.]

Major Dopping-Hepenstal's (R.E.) office at Head Quarters is quite a little museum of patents. Foremost is an inkstand, invented by the Major. When the pen is lifted from it the lid of the ink-bottle opens automatically; and it shuts again when the pen is replaced. The holder keeps the pen in the most convenient position. A similar appliance is used for rubber stamps; there are Dopping-Hepenstal patent files; patent arrangements for copying; and even patents for keeping dust from plans. All simple, yet very clever.

At the busy junction of Wing Lok Street with Des Voeux Road is "Victoria Jubilee Fountain—1887." It is (now) an old iron affair with a leaky trough, but that does not matter, for water never flows now from its rusty taps, and even if it did, a coolie would think twice before drinking from the corroded cups. A lamp, or what is left of one, surmounts it. The glass is broken and dirty. At night time there is no light. Beneath the bowl-shaped trough are broken bricks, fruit skins and other garbage. Its chief use now seems to be that of a "dossing ken" for coolies. It should either be made presentable, or removed.

On and after 1st October next "British postal orders will be cashable at Hongkong and its agencies in China."

From the 1st October next money orders will be obtainable at the Hongkong post office, payable in Transvaal Colony.

The Rt. Rev. Piazzoli, Roman Catholic Bishop of Hongkong, broke his journey to Italy at Colombo, owing to poor health. He was visited by Sir Henry Blake.

Hongkong continues to place quarantine restrictions on arrivals from Tainan-fu and Anping, in Formosa; and Amoy. Plague is prevalent in these places.

The rainfall of August, as registered at the Hongkong Observatory, was 27.6 in. The mean temperature for the month was 80.8 degrees; maximum, 86 degrees; and minimum, 77.2 degrees.

Sergeant Morris, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, Hongkong, is returning from leave by the next English Mail. He was to have married in May last Miss Gorham, late of Hongkong; but since the latter's arrival in England she has been in the Royal Hospital, Southampton, where she has undergone a critical operation. The wedding has therefore had to be postponed. According to latest news Miss Gorham is now well on the road to recovery.

By a recent copy of the *Liverpool Institute School Magazine* we see that J. Rumjahn, a Hongkong boy, won the sports senior championship. In the high jump he beat the others, his jump being 4ft. 8in.; he won the long jump, with a jump of 16ft. 8in.; the 100 yds., 10 3/5 sec.; 220 yds., 26 sec.; 440 yds. and hurdle race.

The name of Charles Hamilton Bew has been added to the local list of authorised architects.

Quarantine restrictions at Straits Settlements, placed on arrivals from Hongkong, have been removed.

The *Kobe Chronicle* quotes from a contemporary its account of an incident in the court of Mr. H. H. J. Gompertz. For smoking a cigarette in Court, Mr. Gompertz made a Chinaman "stand in a corner" for two hours, holding up the offensive cigarette. The *Chronicle* has the following comment thereon: The incident is, of course, one to excite a smile, and yet its justice may be questioned. If a foreigner were to enter a Japanese Court, and for inadvertently offending against one of the rules—for instance, that which involves the removal of the overcoat—should be placed in a humiliating position for a couple of hours, there would be a pretty outcry. But it is difficult to imagine such a thing occurring in a Japanese Court. Possibly it is only in Hongkong, where the magistrates appear to have a certain youthful irresponsibility and exuberance, that such an incident could happen. Apparently our contemporary, in reporting the incident and chuckling over it, does not perceive that such things do not encourage the respect of the Chinese for British justice.

MISCELLANEOUS.

It is contemplated for the future to publish all medical reports, or extracts from them, in the *Journal of Tropical Medicine*.

Mr. J. K. S. Fleming, of the I. M. C., according to a Tientsin paper, has been promoted to the rank of Captain.

Coolies recruited here for the Rand mines are supplied with a sort of khaki uniform bearing a red "C" on the right arm.

Telegraphic information was received in Shanghai on the 5th instant of the death at Hankow of Mr. R. Rorden, Upper Yangtze pilot.

Why don't the papers that persist in spelling "Tokyo" as "Tokio" spell "Yokohama" as "Iokohama"? The same *Kana* syllable is used for both by the Japanese.

Two turtles, weighing 200 and 250 lbs. respectively, have been washed ashore at Chefoo. The Chinese say that they have been patrolling the sea at Port Arthur in the Russian interest, and their death means the doom of the port.

Taotai Cheng Teh-pei, the Director of the Military College at Nanking, who is well known among foreigners, died on the 3rd instant. Viceroy Wei Kwangtao appointed Taotai Wei as Director of the Military College in place of the deceased official.

Sir John Keane, Private Secretary to Sir Henry Blake, has returned to Ceylon after a holiday at home.

According to the Tokyo correspondent of a contemporary, money is easy and commodities dearer. A third issue of exchequer bonds, to the amount of eighty million yen, is announced for October, thus fully covering the budget.

The engagement is announced of Ewen Allan, eldest son of Sir Ewen Cameron, K.C.M.G., and Lady Cameron, to Rachel Margaret, eldest daughter of the late Alexander Geddes, of Blairmore, Aberdeenshire, and of Mrs. Geddes.

This little shot, by a Japanese, is unkind, but excusable. "Some of the Japanese papers express their admiration of the manner in which the Russians are conducting their retreat, a manoeuvre of which the Japanese have no experience."

The *Shanghai Daily News* hears on reliable authority that a serious anti-Catholic disturbance has arisen in the Shuichonfu Prefecture of North Kiangsi. The prefect was imprisoned for three weeks by the malcontents, and the Governor of the province has issued instructions to exterminate the whole clan responsible for this uprising.

The retirement of Sir William Wharton from the office of Hydrographer of the Navy rendered vacant for the first time for 20 years one of the most responsible posts under Admiralty control. Captain A. M. Field, who succeeds Sir William Wharton, has had a life-long connection with the department, and has seen a good deal of surveying service in Far Eastern waters.

On August 30th news of anti-missionary troubles at Jauchow, Chingteh-ohin, Lopinghsien and Liutien reached Nanchang, says the *Universal Gazette*. At Jauchow and Chingteh-ohin the Catholic missions, hospitals, and convent were in danger, and the missions at Lopinghsien and Liutien had been plundered and burnt. The local officials had been ordered to protect the missions.

It is pleasant to read in the *Times* a poem by Baron Takasaki to Lord Tennyson (the late Laureate's son) praying for an Anglo-Japanese alliance in literature as well as politics. Captious critics may see a dubious compliment in the line "when shall I meet again my peerless friend and grasp his great, good hand?" The leg-of-mutton fist suggestion was perhaps due to the difficulty of translation.

Wonders will never cease—in Korea. A native reporter writes to the *Korea Daily News* as follows. "There is a serious beast in the house of the man named Kim in Hongsan district of Choong Chong province, that was born which between wild pig and horse. It's hair is like pins and it's mouth is like pig's mouth. It make a very curious noise, many catties of things can be loaded on its back and it can run very fast like the fowls do."

Many people interested in foreign missions will hear with sorrow of the death of Mrs. Hudson Taylor, wife of the founder of the China Inland Mission. Mrs. Taylor shared her husband's active interest in the evangelisation of China, and she was his companion in the frequently dangerous and always weary journeys through China which he undertook so often. Both Mr. and Mrs. Hudson Taylor have been in weak health, and a message of sympathy was sent a few days ago to them from the Keswick Convention, at which in past years they had often spoken. Mrs. Taylor's illness terminated very peacefully at La Paisible, Chevalleyres, Blonay, Switzerland.

Mr. S. Pollard writes to the *Times* from Chao-tong, Yunnan, West China, on May 18, to say that a report is current in Yunnan that Admiral Ting, who was generally supposed to have committed suicide after his defeat at Weihai-wei in 1894, is still alive. The admiral is a native of the province of Yun-nan, his home being near Ta-li-fu. Instead of committing suicide, he changed his name and returned home, keeping quiet until the storm had blown over. He is now said to be a military mandarin in command of some troops, and, serving under Viceroy Li's son, is sharing in the attempt to put down the rebellion in Kwang-shi. "This information Mr. Pollard first obtained from a priest whose home is also in the vicinity of Ta-li-fu. Since then he has had it confirmed by others, and finds that it seems to be generally accepted as true."

It will not be surprising, quips a contemporary, if Mr. Lessar complains to the Waiwupu of the breach of neutrality involved in the assistance given by the millet to the Japanese.

The British Minister wrote the Waiwupu on the 21st August that when one of the British gunboats went to the Poyang lake she was stopped by the Chinese officer in charge of the fort there, which fact is against the stipulations of the Chefoo Convention, etc. The Waiwupu answered that the Chefoo Convention does not allow foreign warships to enter the Poyang lake, and so please do not send any warship there so as to maintain friendship.—*Universal Gazette.*

Shanghai merchants doing business in Shanghai who have branch agencies in several Manchurian cities have received telegrams from their agents, stating that when the Russians were driven out of Liaoyang many of them took their revenge on inoffensive natives who happened to be in their vicinity, and this coupled with the terrible bombardment of the Japanese artillery caused great destruction of life amongst the population. Several hundred houses have been destroyed, burying under ruins many thousand unfortunate men, women, and children, while in a number of streets and lanes the bodies of dead natives lie piled up one on top of another, and in some places are breast high. A terrible sight indeed, comments a Chinese writer. It seems that many of the victims were driven out of their dwellings by the bursting of shells within their walls, and when wandering about the streets were shot down or bayoneted.

The death is announced, from paralysis, at Herne Bay, of Capt. Edward Henry Bayly, R.N., C.B. The gallant officer, who was born on December 1st, 1849, and was thus in his 55th year, was the son of the late Major George Bayly, formerly of the 35th Regt., and of Eliza, daughter of the late Lieut-Gen. Savage, who was formerly colonel commanding the Royal Engineers. After completing his education privately and in H.M.S. *Britannia*, he entered the navy in 1863 as a naval cadet. In the course of his career the late officer saw varied service. In 1900 his ship was the *Aurora*, and, landing with Admiral Seymour in North China, he was given the command of the British defence force of Tientsin. During the siege he was the senior of the commanding officers of the European, Japanese, and American forces until Sir Edward Seymour's return, when he served as chief of the staff. He remained at Tientsin as senior naval officer until the middle of September, by which time all naval forces had been withdrawn. In his despatch to the Admiralty, Sir Edward Seymour stated that "Capt. Bayly was left in charge of the British forces at Tientsin, displaying great calmness, energy, and good judgment, and a tact and temper quite remarkable." He was created a C.B. in November, 1900.

A meeting of the Shanghai Committee of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held on the 2nd inst. for the consideration of a matter which is likely to leave its impress upon a northern province, and perhaps on many others in time. The business before the committee was nothing less than that of dealing with a request of H. E. the Governor of Shantung, communicated through Dr. Timothy Richard to the Bible Society, that he, the Governor, should be supplied with copies of the New Testament in sufficient numbers to forward to every mandarin in the province, from the status of county-court magistrate upwards. "For," said the Governor, "by studying the book which the missionaries hold sacred, a better understanding will prevail, and peace and harmony result." The Committee accordingly voted that some two hundred finely-bound Testaments should be sent to His Excellency, together with a replica of the edition de luxe copy presented some years back to the Empress Dowager, for his own use. And as the whole scheme of co-operation with the missionaries in that province was stated by His Excellency to be the initiation of an experimental objection for other provinces, the Committee feel justified in ordering an edition of two thousand New Testaments, similar to those about to be sent to Shantung, to meet similar demands which it is hoped will arise in every province of the empire.—*N.C. Daily News.*

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

The following are the Tea statistics at Hankow to 6th September, compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 9th September, 1903:—

HANKOW TEA.	1904.	1903.
Settlements...	579,351	532,887
Shipments to Shanghai on		
Native account	9,835	19,687
Stock	13,068	17,891
Arrivals	602,252	570,465
KIUKIANG TEA.	1904.	1903.
Settlements...	195,402	190,682
Shipments to Shanghai on		
Native account	14,059	13,017
Stock	4,114	703
Arrivals	213,575	204,402

The export of Tea from Hankow to 3rd instant, as per Customs Returns stands thus:—

Season	1904 x 1905.	1903 x 1904.	1902 x 1903.
Total	42,538,224 lbs.	35,838,263	35,827,122
Via Shanghai.	6,333,788 lbs.	6,174,516 lbs.	
To Great Britain...			
United States			
and Canada	3,808,552	4,116,106	
Continent	4,236,829	1,884,381	
Russia in Europe	107,190	13,184,737	
do. via North		16,899,619	
Shanghai	3,638,073	3,995,573	

To the end of August the Export of Japan tea from Kobe amounted to 10,577,348 lbs. as compared with 8,284,131 to the corresponding date last season. From Yokohama the export in the same period this season was 18,396,727, as compared with 19,521,027 lbs. last season.

SILK.

Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons, in their Silk Circular, dated Shanghai, 3rd September, state:—The home markets are quiet, Gold Kiling is quoted in London at 11-6 and in Lyons at Fcs. 34. Raw Silk.—A large business has been transacted in Tsatless, since the date of our last Circular about 2,000 bales having been taken. Coarse Silks have also been in considerable demand. Market closes firm. Steam Filatures.—Small business chiefly in fine sizes for the continent. Sales made have mostly been in market and low grade chops. Yellow Silks.—Continue in fair demand at rates given below. Hand Filatures.—Have been in some request for Lyons at prices same as last. Waste Silks.—In spite of continued depression on the Home Markets (resulting from heavy stocks and poor demand), a large business has been done in Frisonets by Continental buyers. We estimate as follows 1,000 Pels. Kading Frisonets 70-20.10 at Tls. 35-35½ and 800 Pels. Szechuan Frisonets 80.30.10 at 32-34. 300 Pels. Bat Tails at Tls. 31. Curlies have been booked to extent of 100 Pels. at 87½ and more are wanted at this figure, but dealers are not disposed to sell under 89.90. Gum Wastes are in small supply. Tussah Wastes can be had in quantity, but there is no demand. Total Settlements to date of Kading Frisonets, Pels. 3,000 Szechuan Frisonets, Pels. 2,000, Hankow Frisonets, Pels. 3,000.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 16th Sept.—The prices are nearly the same as when last reported.

Shenkloong, No. 1, White.....	\$8.40 to \$8.45 pels.
Do. " 2, White.....	7.50 to 7.55 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	6.05 to 6.10 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.90 to 5.95 "
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	8.85 to 8.40 "
Do. " 2, White.....	7.45 to 7.50 "
Do. " 1, Brown.....	5.85 to 5.90 "
Do. " 2, Brown.....	5.70 to 5.75 "
Foochow Sugar Candy.....	12.50 to 12.55 "
Shenkloong ".....	10.55 to 10.60 "

The Kobe Market Report states that the Market for Hongkong Refined and Beet is firm at higher prices. Osaka Refined.—6,400 bags were sold at Auction on the 23rd August, the figures realised showing an advance of from 5 sen to 40 sen according to grade over last prices.

PRICE.

HONGKONG, 16th Sept.—The position of the market is the same as when last reported.

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.30 to \$2.35
" Round, good quality.....	2.60 to 2.65
" Long.....	3.30 to 3.35
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2.....	2.55 to 2.60
" Garden, " No. 1.....	3.55 to 3.60
" White,.....	4.05 to 4.10
" Fine Cargo.....	4.20 to 4.25

The Market in Japan continues good, but dealers are shy of making contracts for forward delivery. A typhoon recently in the neighbourhood of Kobe has passed over without doing any damage to the crop, and the export market is consequently weak.

COPPER.

A fair business has taken place in Japan almost exclusively for China, amongst which 110 tons of Sumitomo has been taken out of the Market at Yen 87.55 per picul for January shipment. Besides, a large quantity of Copper has been sold by the Mitsui Bishi to Osaka dealers, who cut the copper into coin sizes to be minted in China, and of this Copper contracts have been made for 300 tons 99.5 per cent. October/November, and February/March delivery at Yen 48.80 to Yen 49.—Most dealers are sold out well forward, some up to August next.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 16th Sept.—Quotations are:—Allowances net to 1 catty.

Malwa New.....	\$1160 to \$1180 per picul.
Malwa Old.....	\$1220 to \$1240 do.
Malwa Older.....	\$1280 to \$1300 do.
Malwa V. Old.....	\$1320 to \$1340 do.
Persian fine quality.....	\$900 to — do.
Persian extra fine.....	\$925 to — do.
Patna New.....	\$1115 to — per chest.
Patna Old.....	\$ — to — do.
Benares New.....	\$1095 to — do.
Benares Old.....	\$1130 to — do.

COTTON.

The Kobe (Chamber of Commerce) Market Report says with regard to American Cotton business:—In view of favourable reports prevalent in Cotton districts with large crops, consumers are maintaining a firm attitude, and are holding off in anticipation of lower prices. The feeling locally is that the present condition cannot continue very much longer, and a break in the market may occur at any time. Some sales, however, are reported by speculators at prices much below cost, with a view to covering later on at a decline. Spot cargo is practically nil. Indian.—The situation remains practically unchanged, and continues to rule quiet in consequence of holders maintaining prices. A considerable forward business has been effected in Tinnevely, Western and Compta, owing to prices in these staples ruling more in sympathy with ideas of spinners. These prices run in the neighbourhood of Yen 29.50, Yen 29.75, Yen 30.00, and Yen 30.75, and the feeling is that quotations will continue around these figures for the next fortnight. Chinese.—The market is very sensitive, and the situation in Indian and American have eventually reacted upon Chinese, causing prices to take a turn on an upward tendency. A large business in forward and "spot" has in consequence been put through. The demand for Grey Shirtings has been good throughout the month, and a large business has been done. The transactions amount to about 30,000 pieces from stock, and about 55,000 pieces to arrive. During the last few days Manchester quotations have taken an upward turn in sympathy with Cotton, which has prevented further business. There have been more inquiries all round for Cotton Goods and Fancies, and a moderate business has been done. For Worsteds and Woollens there has been more inquiry, and some fresh business in Government cloth has been done. Cotton Yarns.—The export market dull, little or no business doing, but the mills have advanced their prices all round in sympathy with the advance in Cotton. The export for the last fortnight in August amounts to 23,224 piculs, as against 23,478 piculs in 1903.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co., in their Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, state under date 8th September:—There is a decided lull in the market, brought about in the first place by the scarcity of spot cargo, and assisted by the higher rate of native interest prevailing. In addition to these local causes there is less demand for Newchwang, in fact owing to the unfavourable rate of exchange on this the dealers here have telegrams instructing them to suspend shipping for the present. That encourages buyers for other markets to hold off and business comes to a standstill. Forward transactions have also become greatly modified, this being brought about by the higher prices in the producing centres and the almost impossibility of booking goods for delivery within a reasonable time. Without these causes, which it is possible to point to, it would not have been unnatural for a lull in the buying after the great excitement of the last few weeks. An enormous quantity of cargo has been booked for the Spring trade, clearly showing what the Natives think of future prospects. There is a belief amongst the Native dealers here that the demand for American goods for Newchwang is because they are being bought up by the belligerents to make shrouds. However, we still adhere to the opinion that it is to make up for the shortage of Native cloth, which the Customs' quarterly returns just issued confirm—the import for the three months to 30th June being only 23,911 piculs, against 71,723 and 90,904 piculs respectively the same period in 1903 and 1902. The market in Manchester keeps very strong, but a fair quantity of goods continues to be booked. Prices depend on the delivery required, being much higher for early shipment. Spot Cotton is still fluctuating, the latest quotation being 6.50d. for Mid-American and 7½d. for Egyptian. Futures are slightly easier, it is said. The export of Plain Cottons last month to China and Hongkong was 30 million yards. The market in New York is also strong and quotations are all higher, while manufacturers seem to be engaged well forward. The business contracted for during interval has been chiefly in the lighter makes and at full prices. A good business was done at firm rates in imported Yarns, but the high prices being paid for Native Cotton for export has stopped further business with the Local Spinnings. Trade Marks.—The Local Chamber of Commerce has called the attention of importers to the "provisional regulations of the Chinese Government for the registration of Trade Marks in China, to come into force on the 23rd October next." Attached to these Regulations are the detailed rules of the Registration Office, but as the last clause states that "the above regulations are provisional and are subject to revision when the Code governing Trade Marks shall have been compiled," we do not imagine any one will be in a hurry to pay the very exorbitant fees these "provisional regulations" call for.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 9th September.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

COTTON YARN—		per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...	\$ 90.00 to \$128.00	
English—Nos. 16 to 24, ...	114.00 to 120.00	
" 22 to 24, ...	120.00 to 128.00	
" 28 to 32, ...	136.00 to 142.00	
" 38 to 42, ...	155.00 to 170.00	

Reported sales 3,500 bales.

COTTON PIECE GOODS—		per piece
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.20 to 2.30	
7 lbs.	2.35 to 2.50	
8.4 lbs.	3.20 to 4.10	
9 to 10 lbs.	4.10 to 5.50	
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.90 to 3.10	
58 to 60 "	3.20 to 3.75	
64 to 66 "	4.00 to 5.50	
Fine 6.20 to 8.25		
Book-folds 5.50 to 8.20		
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	0.80 to 1.10	
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	2.25 to 2.50	
7lbs. (32 ") , "	2.75 to 3.00	
6lbs. (32 ") , Mexs.	2.25 to 2.75	
7lbs. (32 ") , "	3.00 to 3.25	
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.)	3.20 to 4.00	
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs.	5.25 to 8.00	

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs.	1.80 to 3.90
Brocades—Dyed 0.13 to 0.14	

DAMASKS—

		per yard
Chintzes—Assorted 0.09 to 0.17		
Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.23 to 0.45		
Velveteens—18 in. 0.21 to 0.27		

WOOLLENS—

		per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.70 to 2.50	
German 0.60 to 0.75		
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths, 1.00 to 3.50		

		per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	7.80 to 9.50	
Assorted 7.95 to 9.65		
Camlets—Assorted 12.50 to 33.00		
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches Assorted 13.00 to 22.00		
Orleans—Plain, 31 in. 10.00 to —		

		per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. 0.70 to 0.80		
Fine quality — to —		

		per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.45 to 0.75	

METALS—

		per picul
Iron—Nail Rod 4.10 to —		
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) 4.10 to —		
Swedish Bar 4.15 to —		
Small Round Rod 4.80 to —		
Hoop ½ to 1½ in. 6.20 to —		
Wire, 16/25 oz. 9.50 to —		
Wire Rope, Old 3.00 to —		
Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop 8.40 to —		
Australian 8.40 to —		
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz. 39.50 to —		
Vivian's 14/20 oz. 39.50 to —		
Elliot's 14/20 oz. 39.50 to —		
Composition Nails 61.00 to —		
Japan Copper, Slabs 38.50 to —		
Tin 81.50 to —		

		per box
Tin-Plates 7.50 to —		

		per cwt. cases
Steel ½ to ¾ 5.90 to —		
Quicksilver 152.00 to —		

		per box
Window Glass 4.50 to —		

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, September 17th, 1904.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

		Per picul
Cowhides, best selected Tls. 33.00		
Do. seconds 29.00		
Buffalo hides, best selected 19.00		
Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour) ..		
Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each) 9.00		
White China Grass (Wuchang and or Poochi) 11.40		
White China Grass (Sinsan and or Chayu) 10.50		
Green China Grass (Szechuen) 11.60		
Jute 5.00		
White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow) ...		10.50
White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchow and/or Macheng) 10.40		
White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu) ...		
Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu) 10.00		
Animal Tallow 9.00		
Gallnuts (usual shape) 18.50		
Do. (Plum) do. 20.00		
Black Bristles 116.00		
Feathers (Grey and/or White Duck) ...		21.00
" " Wild Duck 21.75		
Turmeric 3.00		
Sesamum Seed 4.45		
Sesamum Seed Oil 7.90		
Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil 7.90		
Wood Oil, 7.80		
Tea Oil 9.00		

Per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, sailed on 19th September. For London:—30 bales raw silk, 100 cases dry preserves, 15 rolls matting, 1 case cigars, 7 half-chests tea from Foochow, 9 packages sundries. For London or Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For St. Chamond:—88 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—185 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—127 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk

AMOY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

SEPTEMBER, 10TH 1904. List of the principal goods passed through the Amoy Custom House from 27th August to 2nd September, 1904:—

IMPORTS.

Goods.		QUANTITY
Cotton Raw, Indian pla.		—
" " Native "		116
" Yarn "		1,209

GOODS. QUANTITY

Shirtings, Grey pcs.	1,630
T-Cloths "	1,643
Shirtings, White "	1,805
T. Red Shirtings "	390
Drills "	—
Shirtings Dyed, Brocades "	374
" Dyed "	68
Damasks "	—
Camlets "	163
Lasting "	56
Spanish Stripes yds.	1,008
Lustres, Figured "	—
Lead, in pigs pls.	28
Tin in slabs "	144
Iron, Nail rod "	23
Quicksilver pls.	7
Iron, Old "	13
Ironwire "	19
Rice "	9,590
Opium, Patna "	1
" Benares "	41
" Persia "	25
" Malwa "	—
" Szechuan "	23
" Yunnan "	27
" Kiangsu "	—
Sesamum Seed "	73
Sapanwood "	48
Sandalwood "	—
Rattans "	75
Wheat "	5,732
Flour "	3,887
Beancake "	37,128
Beans and Peas "	36,389
Bicho de Mar "	259
Mata Tea pcs.	3,000
Oil, Kerosine American gals.	300,000
" " Borneo in bulk "	—
" " Bumarh "	—
" " Sumatra "	—
" " Bulk "	—
Coal tons.	2,342
Tobacco Leaf pls.	96
Vermicelli "	809

EXPORTS.

Goods.		QUANTITY
Sugar, White pls.		197
" Brown "		351
" Candy "		2,114
Hemp Bags pcs.		3,100
" Sacking "		2,750
Paper I Quality pls.		1,198
" II "		267
Tobacco, Prepared "		267
Kittysols (mubrellas) pcs.		—

EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 19th September.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer 1/9½	
Bank Bills, on demand 1/9½	
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight 1/10	
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight 1/10½	
Credits, at 4 months' sight 1/10½	
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight 1/10½	
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand 230	
Credits 4 months' sight 233½	
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand 186½	
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand 4½	
Credits, 60 days' sight 4½	
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer 136½	
Bank, on demand 136½	
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer 136½	
Bank, on demand 136½	
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight 71½	
Private, 30 days' sight 72½	
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand 89½	
ON MANILA.—	
On demand—Pesos 89½	
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand 5½ p.c.p.m.	
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand 110	
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand 1½ p.c.p.m.	
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand 1½ p.c.p.m.	
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand 61½	
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate \$109	
GOLD LEAF, 130 fine, per tola \$57.10	
GAR SILVER, per oz. 28½	

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 16th September, 1904.—A good general demand has been experienced throughout the past week, and we have again to report further important transactions in Indo-Chinas and China Sugars at advancing rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have again been fixed at \$650, at which rate more shares are procurable. The London rate is £66. Nationals are quiet but steady at \$39.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have sold and are in further request at \$580. Cantons have jumped to \$22½ buyers. North Chinas have improved to Tls. 70 with sales and buyers, and Yangtszes to \$140. China Traders are weak with sellers at \$62.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are quiet at \$330. Chinas are in request at \$87 after small sales at the rate.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao are procurable at \$30. Indo-Chinas have been the medium of an extensive business at from \$122 to \$127 cash and for settlement account, and at rather less than equivalent rates for December, January, and February delivery, market closing with buyers at \$123 cash, sellers at \$127. China and Manilas are quieter at \$26½ with probable sellers. Douglases have sold at \$37½ to \$39, closing with sellers at the latter rate. Star Ferries are procurable at \$41 (old) and \$31 (new) after sales of both at quotations. Shell Transports have been booked and are in further request at 2½/-

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have continued in demand and important sales have been effected at from \$210 to \$212 cash and for settlement delivery and at equivalent rates forward to December and January, market closing firm with cash buyers at \$212. Luzons have declined to \$6 at which a small sale is reported.

MINING.—Raubs have sold and continue on offer at \$6½.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—A sudden demand for Hongkong and Whampoa Docks drove the rate up rapidly to \$229, at which fair transactions were booked, the market closing with a few shares offering at the quotation. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold and are in further request at \$113. New Amoy Docks continue on offer at \$27½. Farnhams after advancing to Tls. 190 have dropped to Tls. 180 with local sales and further buyers at the latter rate.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold and are still procurable at \$154. Kowloon Lands have been booked at \$39; and Humphrey's Estates at \$12½. West Points are still in the market at \$61. Hongkong Hotels, under an unsatisfied demand, have risen to \$135½ buyers. Shanghai Lands are quoted at Tls. 111.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs have dropped to \$11½ sellers ex the dividend of 5 per cent. for the year ending 31st July, 1904, paid on the 12th instant. The Northern stocks are unchanged and without local business.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have sold at \$30, \$30½, and \$11, and a few more shares can be placed at the latter rate. China Bernees are firm at \$11 buyers. A. S. Watsons are in the market at \$15. Ices are procurable at \$250. Steam Waterboats are wanted at \$20. Powells have sold and are in further request at \$12½. China Providents have been booked at \$9½ and \$9½ and continue in request. China Light and Powers are procurable at \$9½.

MEMOS.—Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., extraordinary general meeting on the 22nd instant, at the offices of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 28th instant; transfer books closed from the 19th to 28th inst. inclusive. Wm. Powell Ltd., ordinary yearly meeting on the 27th inst.; transfer books closed from the 22nd to 27th inst. inclusive. Hongkong Steam Waterboat Co., Ltd., extraordinary general meeting on the 22nd instant.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$650, sellers L'don, £66.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	28	\$39.
B. Shares	28	\$39.
Foun. Shares...	21	\$10, buyers
Insurance—		
Union	\$100	\$580, sales & buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$62, sellers
North China	25	Tls. 70, sales & buy.
Yangtze	\$60	\$140.
Canton	\$50	\$225, buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330.
China Fire	\$20	\$87, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
H. Canton and M...	\$15	\$30, sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	210	\$127, sellers
China and Manila...	\$50	\$26½.
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$39, sellers
Star Ferry	\$5	\$41, seller
"	\$5	\$31, sellers
Shell Transport and	21	24, buyers
Trading Co.		
Do. pref. shares....	£10	£8. 10s.
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$212.
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$6, sales
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490.
Raubs	18. 10d.	\$6½, sales & sellers
Docks, Etc.—		
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$229, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$113, buyers
New Amoy Dock ...	\$6½	\$27½, sellers
S. C. F. Boyd & Co...	Tls. 100	Tls. 180, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$154, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$39, sales
West Point Building	\$50	\$61, sellers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$135½, buyers
Humphreys Estate. }	\$10	\$12.75, sellers
"	\$2½	\$5, buyers
S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 50	Tls. 111.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 30, sellers
International ...	Tls. 75	Tls. 25.
Laou Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 32½.
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 160, sellers
Hongkong	\$10	\$11½, ex div.
Green Island Cement.	\$10	\$31, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$12	\$11, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S...	\$10	\$15, sellers
Hongkong Electric }	\$10	\$15, buyers
"	\$5	\$9½, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas...	210	\$180, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$140, sellers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$47, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$250, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways...	\$100	\$300.
Hk. Steam Water-		
Boat Co., Ltd.	\$10	\$19½, buyers
Dairy Farm	\$8	\$21, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$37, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	12/6	\$5.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9½, buyers
Do	\$10	\$180.
Tebrau Planting Co...	\$5	\$1.
China Prov. L. & M...	\$10	\$9½, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.	\$10	\$9½.
China Light & Power }	\$10	\$9½.
Co., Ltd.		
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$12½, sales
Shanghai and Hong-		
kong Dyeing and	\$50	\$50.
Cleaning Co., Ltd.		
Canton, Hongkong Ice	\$10	\$10, nominal
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited.	\$500	\$150, sellers
Phippine Tobacco }	\$10	\$9½, sellers
Trust Co., Ltd. }		
Steam Laundry Co., }	\$5	\$7, sellers
Ltd.		\$3½, buyers
S. C. Morning Post ...	\$25	\$19½.

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co. in their Share Report for the week ending 8th September, 1904, states:—Since our last we have at an active market with marked rising rates, notably in S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd., and in Indo-Chinas. At the close both these stocks are steady. The T. T. rate on London to-day is 2/6½. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have been placed at \$645 ex. 73, being quoted from the South \$650 nominal. The latest London quotation is £66 10s. Marine and Fire Insurance.—A single transaction in China Fires is reported at \$87. Shipping.—Indos. There has been a strong demand for cash and forward shares from Hongkong since our last, and the cash rate has advanced from Tls. 84½ to 86

closing with buyers. For October 85½, 86, 86½, 87½ have been reported, and we hear of private transactions at higher rates unquoted. For December a large business has been done at from Tls. 80 up to 91, and close steady. Shanghai Tag & Lighter ordinary shares have been placed at Tls. 46, and preference shares at Tls. 44. Docks and Wharves.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd & Co., Ltd., On Saturday last a very strong demand set in and the cash rate advanced from Tls. 173, 176, 180, 181 and 182. For October shares were placed from 177 up to 186, and for December a very large business was done at rates varying from 176 to 190. Our closing rates are Tls. 181 cash and 187½ December. Shanghai and Hongkong Wharves have been placed at Tls. 155 cash and are wanted at this figure. At Tls. 162½ December there are buyers. Sugars.—A single transaction in Peraks has been done at Tls. 60. Mining.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. announces the payment of a dividend of 7½ per cent. Bearer shares are wanted at Tls. 7. Weihaiwei Gold Mining shares. This market has been too dead since our last to arrive at a correct rate, but a transaction has been done at \$22 cash, and shares can be got at \$24 December. Oriental Golds have changed hands at \$13½. Lands.—Shanghai Lands have been placed at Tls. 111. Industrial.—Gas shares have been negotiated at Tls. 99. Cotton shares, no business under this heading. China Flours have been dealt in at Tls. 65. Maatschappij, &c., in Langkat have changed hands during the week at Tls. 312½ and 315 cash, and 317½ September, and 327½ and 330 December. Closing steady at Tls. 315 and 327½ December. Shanghai Sumatra shares have been placed at Tls. 67 September, and 69 October. Stores and Hotels.—There has been a strong demand for Hotel des Colonies and shares are wanted at Tls. 19. Central Stores new shares have been done at \$8. Hall and Holts still quoted at \$31. Weeks & Co. have changed hands at \$18½. Loans and Debentures.—Astor House 8 per cent. Debentures are unprocurable at Tls. 104, at which there are buyers. Gas Debentures 6 per cent. have been placed at Tls. 94.

FREIGHTS.

From Hankow per Conference Steamers.—To London and Northern Continental ports (via Shanghai):—46/- plus River Freight. To Genoa, Marseilles or Havre (via Shanghai):—Tea and General Cargo 41/6 plus River Freight. To New York (overland):—Tea G\$ 1½ cents per lb. gross plus River Freight. To New York (via Suez):—Tea and General Cargo 35/- per ton. To Shanghai:—Tea and General Cargo, Tael 1.80 per ton weight or measurement.

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—	ARRIVALS.
9, Aragonia, German str., from Portland.	
9, Belgian King, British str., from Moji.	
9, Bengal, British str., from Bombay.	
9, Benvorlich, British str., from Yokohama.	
9, Chusan, British str., from Shanghai.	
9, Dett, Norwegian str., from Saigon.	
9, Epsom, British str., from Amoy.	
9, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.	
9, Iltis, German gunboat, from Swatow.	
9, Malacca, British str., from London.	
9, Satara, British str., from Rangoon.	
9, Tean, British str., from Manila.	
10, Cingtu, British str., from Sydney.	
10, Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.	
10, Keongwai, German str., from Bangkok.	
10, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.	
10, Triumph, German str., from Coast Ports.	
11, Dante, Italian str., from Cardiff.	
11, Mathilde, German str., from Touron.	
12, Choysang, British str., from Shanghai.	
12, Gregory Apcar, British str., from Calcutta.	
12, Kong Beng, German str., from Saigon.	
12, Legaspi, American str., from Manila.	
12, Pronto, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.	
12, Rabi, British str., from Manila.	
12, Stantor, British str., from Moji.	
12, Suevia, German str., from Hamburg.	
13, Barotse, British str., from London.	
13, Cyra, British str., from Moji.	
13, Glaucus, British str., from Shanghai.	
13, Gneisenau, German str., from Yokohama.	
13, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.	
13, Lydia, British str., from Moji.	
13, Macduff, British str., from Moji.	
13, Oscar II., Norw. str., from Kutchinotsu.	
13, Patney Bridge, British str., from Venice.	
13, Tyr, Norwegian str., from Canton.	
13, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.	
13, Woosang, British str., from Canton.	
13, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.	

14. Anghin, German str., from Bangkok.
 14. Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
 14. Atholl, British str., from Yokohama.
 14. Australien, French str., from Marseilles.
 14. Hudson, British str., from Keelung.
 14. M. Struve, German str., from Tamsui.
 14. Phuyen, French str., from Loesahaja.
 14. Pingsuey, British str., from Singapore.
 14. Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.
 14. Rajaburi, German str., from Bangkok.
 14. San Francisco, U.S. str., from Shanghai.
 14. Signal, German str., from Hongay.
 14. Tungus, Norwegian str., from Moji.
 14. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
 14. Tientsin, British str., from Bombay.
 15. Auohenarden, British str., from Moji.
 15. Doric, British str., from San Francisco.
 15. Eastern, British str., from Kobe.
 15. Glenesk, British str., from Kutchinotzu.
 15. Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
 15. Loosok, German str., from Bangkok.
 15. Pronto, Norwegian str., from Canton.
 15. Sachsen, German str., from Bremen.
 15. Themis, Norwegian str., from Shanghai.
 15. Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
 16. Callao, U.S. gunboat, from Canton.
 16. Changsha, British str., from Kobe.
 16. Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 16. J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Pakhoi.
 16. Johanne, German str., from Bangkok.
 16. Mathilde, German str., from Swatow.
 16. Ohio, British str., from Saigon.
 16. Orange, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
 16. Taming, British str., from Manila.
 16. Tsintau, German str., from Kotsichang.
 17. Albenga, German str., from Manila.
 17. C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 17. Karin, Swedish str., from Newchwang.
 17. Pleiades, American str., from Manila.
 17. Rance, British str., from Rangoon.
 17. Waihora, British str., from Hoihow.
 18. Achilles, British str., from Liverpool.
 18. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 18. Independent, German str., from Moji.
 18. Pentakota, British str., from Singapore.
 18. Phranang, German str., from Bangkok.
 18. Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.

September— DEPARTURES.
 9. Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
 9. Chunsang, British str., for Kobe.
 9. Gaea, German str., for Chefoo.
 9. Hanoi, French str., for Kwangchauwan.
 9. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 9. Taksang, British str., for Shanghai.
 9. Tyr, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 10. Benclench, British str., for Yokohama.
 10. Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 10. Benvorlich, British str., for Kotsichang.
 10. Callao, U.S. gunboat, for Canton.
 10. Chusan, British str., for Europe.
 10. Elba, Italian cruiser, for Saigon.
 10. Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.
 10. Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 10. Heimdal, British str., for Yokohama.
 10. Satara, British str., for Yokohama.
 10. Toonan, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 11. Borg, Norwegian str., for Kobe.
 11. Chiyun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 11. Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
 11. Loksang, British str., for Shanghai.
 11. Petchaburi, German str., for Amoy.
 11. Wongkoi, German str., for Bangkok.
 11. Yatshing, British str., for Sourabaya.
 12. Hongmoh, British str., for Amoy.
 12. Kaifong, British str., for Iloilo.
 12. Promise, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 12. Pronto, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 13. Bulyesse, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Choyang, British str., for Canton.
 13. Epsom, British str., for New York.
 13. Glenloch, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
 13. Ischia, Italian str., for Bombay.
 13. Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13. Mathilde, German str., for Swatow.
 13. Tean, British str., for Manila.
 13. Tjipanas, Dutch str., for Yokohama.
 13. Tolo, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
 13. Tyr, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 13. Woosung, British str., for Canton.
 14. Australien, French str., for Shanghai.
 14. Gneisenau, German str., for Europe.
 14. Kong Bang, German str., for Yokohama.
 14. Machaw, German str., for Bangkok.
 14. Malacca, British str., for Shanghai.
 14. Putney Bridge, British str., for Shanghai.
 14. Sikh, British str., for Shanghai.
 14. Triumph, German str., for Swatow.

15. China, British str., for San Francisco.
 15. Dante, Italian str., for Shanghai.
 15. Drott, Norwegian str., for Newchwang.
 15. Fausang, British str., for Sourabaya.
 15. Glaucus, British str., for London.
 15. Hailong, British str., for Swatow.
 15. Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 15. Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 15. Kwangtan, Chinese str., for Canton.
 15. Legazpi, American str., for Manila.
 15. Suevia, German str., for Shanghai.
 15. Wosang, British str., for Tientsin.
 16. Barotse, British str., for Nagasaki.
 16. Chingtu, British str., for Moji.
 16. Hudson, British str., for New York.
 16. Petrarch, German str., for Kobe.
 16. Paklat, German str., for Bangkok.
 16. Pingsuey, British str., for Shanghai.
 16. Sachsen, German str., for Shanghai.
 16. Tientsin, British str., for Kobe.
 16. Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 17. Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.
 17. Aragonia, German str., for Portland.
 17. Atholl, British str., for Manila.
 17. Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 17. Helena, U.S. gunboat, for Canton.
 17. Oscar II., Norwegian str., for Moji.
 17. Pronto, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 17. Signal, German str., for Deli.
 17. Thales, British str., for Tamsui.
 17. Zafro, British str., for Manila.
 18. Arratoon Apcar, Brit. str., for Calcutta.
 18. Eastern, British str., for Australia.
 18. Manila, British str., for Yokohama.
 18. Mathilde, German str., for Tourane.
 18. M. Struve, German str., for Tamsui.
 18. Telemaehus, British str., for Saigon.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Bengal*, from London, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Wenyon, Miss S. Ross, Dr. N. Oliphant, Corpl. F. Wood, Comdr. L. de W. Satow, Sergts. G. E. Eldred and T. Morris, Messrs. P. L. Brown, H. S. Cheverton, T. H. Davies, W. Wells, F. P. Yearley, A. P. Schmidt, Hill, W. H. Dowling, F. W. Grace, J. McDonald, Bruce Robertson, H. R. Waite, A. E. Ross, E. Gutierrez, and M. Petitotio.

Per *Chusan*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Clayson, Rev. and Mrs. P. D. McClintock and infant, Dr. C. R. Edmunds, Messrs. F. D. Mitchell, B. Albert and Hewitts, Native servant; for Marseilles, Mr. E. Soasett; for London Mr. G. Burdekin.

Per *Gneisenau*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Capt. Kynook, Sisters Pereira (2), Misses Chestnut and E. Stuart, Messrs. P. Meyer, P. Kunze, J. M. G. Pereira, and W. H. Williams; from Kobe, Mrs. Pederson, Mrs. K. Kurihara, Mrs. H. Otsuru, Messrs. A. Tyack, G. Peersbroy, and T. Yama; from Nagasaki, Lieut. Cardew, Messrs. A. Sakata and Sakahibara; from Shanghai, Mrs. M. Mautt, Mrs. Evans, Dr. and Mrs. Ch. A. Hayes, Mrs. P. Williams, Mrs. and Miss Gidley, Miss Chunyat, Messrs. P. L. Miller, V. Lugebil, P. Deronsbi, T. Senna, Berthoz, Barel, and Heath.

Per *Australien*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Messrs. Henry Bady, Jarreau, Sapin, Humbert, and Leveque; from Colombo, Messrs. Sands, Hudson, Hynes, Hofso, and Hokou; from Saigon, Rev. Jean Boismerry, Miss Watson, Messrs. Ambo, Baugot, Convet, and Faroy; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mrs. Dovy, M. a. Hespell and 2 children, Mrs. Conrad, Mr. and Mrs. Autagon, Misses Paule and Elise Jaumain, Messrs. Aureoche, Frossart, Drevet, Marguet, Mario, Courgon, Jouchier, Tamet, Begassier, Divineau, Valentin, S. anier, Jamain, Conrad, P. Dervis, Marquis, Von Ars, Davigneau, Luas, Beynon, Lebonille, Lefebvre, Hennessy, Sepieter, Taranne, Roussat, Jeffie, Gosh, Vatticioni, de Rouse, and Andre; from Su z. Mr. Machrilachis and son; from Colombo, Mr. J. Bardinet; from Singapore, Mrs. Clara Goldstein; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. Jee, E. Zee, Jamin, and Ch. Aleveque; for Kobe, from Marseilles, Miss Domballe.

Per *Sachsen*, from Bremen, for Hongkong, Miss Hoffmann, Messrs. Klinak, C. T. Fabert and I. L. Bailey; for Japan, Prince C. von Hohenzollern, Major v. Bronsart and others.

Per *Eastern*, from Kobe, Mr. and Miss Hickling, Mr. and Mrs. Hooper and infant, Mr. and Mrs. Thom, Misses Penny, Cormack, and Potter, Messrs. Penny, Falconer, Ealer, Pughe, and Templeman.

Per *Doric*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Allan Cameron, Mrs. Woods, Mrs. M. B. Card, Dr. and Mrs. C. H. Crooks, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hamilton and infant, Mrs. T. Jones, Mrs. C. A. Lobingier, Mrs. M. H. Richey, Dr. and Mrs. C. C. Walker, Dr. and Mrs. J. D. Griffith, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Woolmer, Mr. and Mrs. Humphreys, Miss Humphreys, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Maxey, Hon. C. L. Lobingier, Capt. F. Kofod, Messrs. C. A. Benson, W. McBride, P. M. Filmer, E. L. Filmer, J. Helms, R. F. Moss, F. H. Phillips, C. P. Shuman, C. D. Upington, E. P. Brian, H. Hunter, F. May, and Dr. J. L. J. Klynen, Misses E. Buzzell, E. Caruthers, M. Gilson, and N. Larimer.

Per *Taming*, from Manila, Mrs. E. Hamilton, Mrs. A. Smith, Messrs. S. Rebasber, H. F. Cameron, C. H. Cady, E. Brunschwig, and H. Coohn.

DEPARTED.

Per *Chusan*, from Hongkong, for Bombay, Messrs. C. Power, Malaroff, and Sanjana; for Marseilles, Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse; for Brindisi, Mrs. Lynn A. Martin and Dewitt H. McGraw, Messrs. Frank H. Maybery and Alfred W. Maybery; from Shanghai, for Marseilles, Mr. E. Soasett; for London, Mr. G. Burdekin.

Per *Australien*, for Shanghai, Mrs. and Miss Rangel and son, Mrs. Carma Chevalier, Messrs. C. Biokart, H. Chr. Muller, Rottman, E. F. X. Dos Remedios, E. Lehmann, and Frère Francois Damase; for Kobe, Mr. K. Kimura.

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